

A NEW  
HISTORY  
OF  
ENGLAND,

FROM THE  
DESCENT of the ROMANS,  
TO THE  
DEMISE of his late Majesty, GEORGE II.

INSCRIBED TO  
His present Majesty, GEORGE III.

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*HISTORY is philosophy teaching by examples.*

*Bolingbroke from Dion. Hall.*

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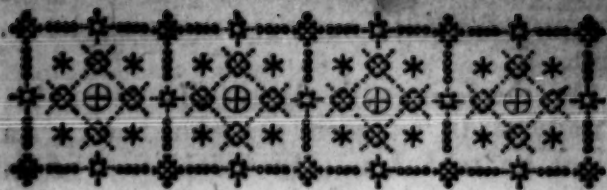
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20

23





T H E  
History of ENGLAND.



The HISTORY of GEORGE II.  
continued. A. D. 1746.



AFTER the short, but, 'tis  
hoped, accurate and impartial his-  
tory, which we have given of  
the rebellion, in the conclusion of  
the last volume, it may not be  
improper to take a retrospective view of  
some proceedings in parliament, which, that

#### 4 *The History of* ENGLAND.

we might not interrupt our account of military transactions, we were then obliged to omit.

On the fourteenth day of January, his majesty made a speech to both houses, in which he told them, that the election of an emperor, which he had very zealously promoted, was an event of great importance, not only to the house of Austria, but to the liberties of Europe in general : that he had, during the course of the last year, exerted his utmost endeavours to effect an accommodation between the empress, the king of Poland, and the king of Prussia; and had laid a proper foundation for it, by the convention made between him and his Prussian majesty : that this great work being at length accomplished, under his mediation, by the treaty concluded at Dresden, the interior tranquillity of Germany among the princes of the empire was now restored : that his next care had been to improve this accommodation to the best advantage, by procuring an immediate succour to be sent into Italy, and such a strength for the defence of the United Provinces, as might preserve that republic, the ancient and natural ally of this kingdom, and one great support of the Protestant cause, from the destruction with which it was threatened; as well as to obtain

tain a safe and honourable peace : that the States-General had solicited him, with the most earnest importunities, to give them assistance in this critical conjuncture : that the imminent danger, to which they were exposed, and which so nearly affected the safety of Great-Britain, as well as the very existence of the Dutch republic, demanded the most serious attention ; the rather, as the interests of the two nations were so united, that whatsoever brought ruin upon one, must, of course, be attended with the most fatal consequences to the other : that these reasons had induced him to assure the states, that he would, to the utmost of his power, and according to the circumstances of his own dominions, co-operate with them, in opposing the farther progress of their common enemies in the Netherlands, and in procuring a proper security for the republic against the ambitious and destructive designs of France : that the great advantages, which his subjects had received from their naval strength, in protecting their commerce, and interrupting and distressing that of their enemies, had been happily experienced by the former and severely felt by the latter ; and he was therefore determined to be particularly attentive to this important service, and to have such a fleet at sea early in the

## 6 *The History of ENGLAND.*

spring as might be sufficient to defend his dominions, and to annoy those of his enemies.

This speech was answered by affectionate addresses from both houses of parliament; but the same unanimity prevailed not in the cabinet. The ministry were divided with regard to the share which Britain ought to take in the war upon the continent. The Dutch, either being, or pretending to be, sensible of the imprudence of the conduct, which had been hitherto observed, had sent count Boetselaer to London, in order to propose, that if the English would engage to stand by the republic, she would enter into the war with the utmost cordiality.

This was a point, about which the British ministry were by no means agreed. The earl of Granville recommended the immediate acceptance of the offer of the Dutch; but the rest of the ministers were of a very different opinion. They thought, that the behaviour of the states was far from promising a hearty concurrence in the war. They saw, that the French ships, which commodore Barnet had taken in the East-Indies, and had sold to the Dutch at Batavia, had, upon their arrival at Amsterdam, been tamely delivered up to the enemy. They observed, that the states had agreed not only

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to the inactivity, but even to the recall, of the auxiliaries, which they had sent into Britain; a circumstance, that was justly considered as a gross breach of faith, as well as an insult upon the understanding of the English. They knew, that the Dutch were, at that very time, treating at the court of Versailles, and soliciting, as a great favour, a treaty of neutrality. And they alledged, that the states had hitherto been extremely deficient in the quotas they had furnished; and that their best troops had been restrained from acting by the most shameful capitulations.

Some of the Dutch patriots, indeed, disapproved of their pusillanimous conduct, and endeavoured, if possible, to persuade the states to embrace more vigorous and spirited measures. They proposed, that their army should be increased with an additional body of thirty thousand men, and that the command should be bestowed upon the prince of Orange. In this, however, they failed of success. The additional troops were never raised, and the command was offered to prince Waldec, a foreigner.

The prince accepted of the proffered honour; but, the better to answer the expectations of his masters, he desired

to be put at the head of one hundred and nine thousand men. His plan for this purpose being delivered to the States-general, they transmitted it to Boetselaer and Hopp, their ministers at London, where it was referred to the consideration of the English ministry.

In consequence of this application, the lord Harrington sent a letter to the two Dutch envoys, representing, that as the revenues of England had suffered great prejudice, as well from the rebellion which had broke out in the kingdom, as from the apprehensions of an invasion from France, his majesty found it impossible to raise money for the war with so much facility as he had hitherto done : that the security of the Netherlands was to them a domestic consideration, but was only a foreign, though indeed an important one, to England : that the States-general, by declining, as they had hitherto done, to declare war against France, had kept their commerce entire, and therefore it was to be supposed, that their revenues were in good order : that the very reasons, which they urged to prove their danger from the designs of the French, ought to induce them to exert themselves with double vigour during the approaching campaign ; and though they could not expect, that his majesty should make the same resolute efforts, which  
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he had employed in the course of the last year, they might yet be assured, that he would readily co-operate with them, as far as the state of his affairs would admit, in opposing the designs of the enemy: that his majesty approved of prince Waldec's plan, and, in order the more effectually to carry it into execution proposed, that forty thousand Dutch, thirty thousand Austrians, exclusive of the garrison of Luxemburgh, eight thousand Hanoverians, ten thousand Saxons, should be taken into the joint pay of his majesty and the states, agreeable to the treaty of Warsaw: that these troops, with thirty thousand Hessians, who, as soon as the rebellion in Britain was suppressed, were to return to the continent, should assemble in the Netherlands; and that the States-General might, if they pleased, proceed immediately to the execution of an agreement, to be entered into for the foregoing purposes between the empress queen, the States-general, and his Britannic majesty: that his majesty, not being then in a condition to contribute to the defence of the empire, must leave that task to the court of Vienna, and to the princes and circles of Germany; and that the treaty of Worms, he had reason to believe, would now be fulfilled by the empress queen, and the affairs

10 *The History of ENGLAND.*

sairs of Italy, by that means, regulated : that his majesty, for his part, was disposed to adhere to his engagements : that he doubted not, that, as the object of the war in Flanders was no longer confined to the assistance of her Hungarian majesty, but extended to the independence, and to the very existence of the republic itself, which had been treated by France with the most insolent and indecent menaces, the States would be ready to exert their utmost power by augmenting their forces both by sea and land : and that, now that the case was become so directly their own, and they had thought it necessary to solicit the aid of his majesty, they would no longer hesitate to put themselves upon the same footing with the British nation, by declaring war against France.

This letter was alike disagreeable to those of the British ministry, who expected, by plunging the nation without reserve into the war, to acquire a complete ascendant in his majesty's councils ; and to those members of the States-General, who had flattered themselves with the hopes of a more favourable answer.

The States, in their reply, paid a few compliments to his majesty ; but they complained heavily of the bad state of their finances,

finances, and of their utter inability to perform what was demanded of them : and, tho' they agreed to augment their quota to forty thousand men, they yet refused to emit any declaration of war, the reasons against which, they alledged, were much stronger now than at any former period,

Notwithstanding this dastardly and irresolute conduct of the Dutch, some of the British ministry were keen for accepting their offer, and even for easing them, in compliance with their request, of part of the burden, which they had undertaken to bear.

This, however, was a measure, to which the rest of the ministers were so extremely averse, that, rather than agree to it, they unanimously resolved to resign their places ; this resolution was immediately put in execution by the duke of Newcastle and the earl of Harrington, secretaries of state ; by Mr. Pelham, first lord of the treasury, and chancellor of the exchequer ; by the earl of Pembroke, groom of the stole ; and by Mr. Grenville and Mr. Legg, lords of the admiralty. The lord chancellor, the lord lieutenant of Ireland, and other great officers, were preparing to follow their example ; and it was with difficulty they were prevailed upon to wait a short time, till his majesty's pleasure should be known.

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## 12 *The History of* ENGLAND.

The earl of Granville had accepted the office of principal secretary of state ; but finding himself unable to withstand the powerful opposition that was formed against him, and conscious that he should not have interest to raise the supplies which the government wanted, he readily quitted so dangerous a station.

The seals were re-delivered to the duke of Newcastle and the earl of Harrington : Mr. Pelham, and all the rest, who had resigned, were re-instated in their respective employments ; and posts were bestowed upon several individuals who had never before been in the service of the government. Amongst others, William Pitt, Esq; was appointed vice-treasurer of Ireland, and soon promoted to the place of paymaster general of the forces ; at the same time the king declared him a privy counsellor.

The quiet of the ministry being thus re-established, the parliament granted the immense supplies that have already been mentioned, agreeable to the message which his majesty sent to the commons, concerning the rebellion. With regard to the proceedings of this session they were so unanimous, that they scarce produced a debate, and therefore are best known by the titles of the acts that were passed. By one of these, the sum  
of

of twenty-five thousand pounds a year was added to the revenue of his royal highness, the duke of Cumberland, for his gallant behaviour in suppressing the rebellion, and the thanks of both houses were voted him upon his gaining the battle of Culloden.

By another the government was impowered to summon all suspected persons in Scotland to appear at Edinburgh, or wherever it should be judged expedient, and oblige them to find sureties for their peaceable deportment. By a third, the earl of Kellie, the viscount Strathallan, the lord Pitligo, and several other Scottish noblemen and gentlemen, were declared attainted, unless they surrendered themselves to a justice of the peace before the twelfth day of July 1746. By a fourth, the exercise of the episcopal religion was prohibited in Scotland, except by such ministers or pastors as qualified themselves according to law, by taking the oaths to the government; an act, which was deemed the more necessary, as most of the Episcopalians in that kingdom was professed Jacobites.

A fifth act was passed for effectually disarming the Highlands of Scotland, and preserving the peace of that part of the country; for restraining the use of the Highland dress, which was supposed to keep up

## 14 *The History of* ENGLAND.

party distinctions; for indemnifying such persons as had acted in defence of his majesty's person and government, during the continuance of the unnatural rebellion; and for obliging the masters and teachers of private schools in Scotland to take the oaths to his majesty, his heirs, and successors.

Notwithstanding the facility, with which the rebellion in Britain had been suppressed, the attempt was productive of the most fatal consequences to the interest of the common cause, by occasioning such a large draught of British troops from the Netherlands. The French did not fail to avail themselves of so favourable an opportunity; and the advantages they gained were so considerable as encouraged them to form one of the boldest, but most absurd schemes, that can well be imagined. This was no other than to prevail with Van Hoey, the Dutch minister at Paris, to transmit to the English ministry a letter, intended to deter them from bringing the rebel prisoners to punishment.

The French king, it must be owned, had no great inclination for such a project; but being stimulated, and even reproached, by Tencin and his clergy, he was at last induced to order his minister, d'Argenson, to write a letter to Van Hoey, in favour of the  
British

British rebels. In this letter, the ties of consanguinity between him and the Pretender were mentioned and acknowledged : great encomiums were made upon prince Edward, as he was there stiled : and an insolent caution was given to his Britannic majesty, not to proceed with too much severity against the rebels, lest such a conduct should be attended with dangerous effects.

“ It is with this view, Sir,” continued d’Argençon, “ that the king ordered me  
 “ to desire your excellency to write to the  
 “ English ministry, and to represent to  
 “ them, in the strongest manner, the in-  
 “ conveniencies that must infallibly result  
 “ from any violent proceedings against  
 “ prince Edward. The right of nations,  
 “ and the particular interest which his ma-  
 “ jesty takes in the welfare of that prince,  
 “ are motives that will probably make some  
 “ impression upon the court of London.  
 “ His majesty hopes to find none but noble  
 “ and generous proceedings from the king  
 “ of England and the English nation, and  
 “ flatters himself that all those, who were  
 “ lately concerned in the interest of the  
 “ house of Stuart, will have reason to extol  
 “ the generosity and clemency of his Bri-  
 “ tannic majesty. But if, contrary to all  
 “ expectation, any attempt should be made

16      *The History of ENGLAND.*

“ either upon the liberty of prince Edward,  
 “ or the lives of his friends and partizans.  
 “ it is easy to foresee that a spirit of ani-  
 “ mosity and fury might prove one dread-  
 “ ful consequence of such rigour; and  
 “ that many innocent people, before the end  
 “ of the war, might fall victims to a vio-  
 “ lence, which could only aggravate the  
 “ evil, and certainly would set no good  
 “ example to Europe.”

Had Van Hoey acted with that caution and circumspection, which became his character and station, he would have entirely suppressed this letter; but his vanity and weakness, and above all his declared attachment to the French court, would not allow him to pursue such a prudent conduct. He immediately transmitted it to the duke of Newcastle, together with a letter of his own, in which he took upon him to enforce the same topics.

1 The duke laid the letter before his majesty, who, conceiving it to be contrary to the honour and dignity of his crown, forbid any answer to be returned to d'Argençon. The duke, however, wrote to Van Hoey to the following effect: “ You know, Sir,” said he, “ and so do the French ministers,  
 “ with what a scrupulous exactness his ma-  
 “ jesty has, on his part, executed the cartel  
 “ agreed

" agreed on between him and the most  
 " Christian king in its utmost extent, even  
 " to the releasing on their parole, all the  
 " officers in the French service, who were  
 " made prisoners within the limits of these  
 " kingdoms, and who were not his majesty's  
 " natural born subjects; although the ser-  
 " vice in which they were then employed,  
 " might very justly have excused him from  
 " it. It is impossible, after this, to doubt of  
 " his majesty's sincere desire to do every  
 " thing, which the law of nations can re-  
 " quire between powers engaged in war  
 " with each other, even beyond what is  
 " usually practised. But, as to what re-  
 " lates to his majesty's own subjects, nei-  
 " ther the law of nations, the cartels, nor  
 " the practice or example of any country,  
 " authorize any foreign power at war with  
 " his majesty to intrude themselves, or to  
 " make any demand from his majesty on  
 " that head. The most Christian king  
 " knows too well himself the right inherent  
 " in every sovereign, to imagine that his  
 " majesty can think otherwise. I cannot  
 " conceal from your excellency his majesty's  
 " surprize to see, that the ambassador of a  
 " power, so strictly united with him, and  
 " so essentially interested in every thing,  
 " that concerns the honour and security of  
 " his

18      *The History of ENGLAND.*

“ his majesty’s person and government,  
 “ could charge himself with transmitting  
 “ to his majesty so unheard of a demand.  
 “ And I am very sorry, Sir, to be obliged  
 “ to acquaint you, that his majesty could  
 “ not avoid complaining of it to their  
 “ High Mightinesses, the States-general,  
 “ your masters.”

Accordingly Mr. Trevor, the British minister at the Hague, presented a very sharp remonstrance against Van Hoey’s conduct, which he affirmed to be equally unjustifiable and unprecedented. At the same time, he informed their High Mightinesses, that his majesty had commanded him to demand of them such a public and distinguished satisfaction, as might, in some measure, be proportionable to the scandal, which this proceeding had given to every friend to the honour, liberty, and religion of the two powers. In consequence of this representation, Van Hoey was severely reprimanded by his masters, and ordered to write a submissive letter to the duke of Newcastle, asking pardon for his behaviour; an injunction with which that gentleman was obliged to comply.

The British ministers were too magnanimous to make the rebels suffer for Van Hoey’s imprudence; but there was an absolute

solute necessity for some examples of justice. Bills of indictment for high treason were found by the county of Surry against the earls of Kilmarnock and Cromartie, and the lord Balmerino. These noblemen were tried by their peers in Westminster-Hall, the lord chancellor presiding as lord high steward on the occasion.

The two earls confessed their crime, and, in pathetic speeches, recommended themselves to his majesty's mercy. Lord Balmerino pleaded not guilty: he denied his having been at Carlisle at the time mentioned in the indictment; but this exception was over-ruled: then he moved a point of law in arrest of judgment, and was allowed to be heard by his council. Being told, however, that this plea was altogether frivolous, he thought proper to acquiesce; and sentence of death was passed upon him and his two associates. Cromartie's life was spared; but the other two were beheaded, in the month of August, on Tower Hill.

Kilmarnock was a nobleman of fine personal accomplishments; he had been educated in Revolution principles, and engaged in the rebellion, partly from the desperate situation of his fortune, partly from resentment to the government, on account of his  
being

being deprived of a pension, which he had for some time enjoyed. He was attended to the scaffold by Dr. Foster, the famous dissenting preacher, and by a clergyman of the church of England, to whom he was nearly related. Foster's enemies pretended, that he had all along flattered his lordship with the hopes of a pardon, provided he kept up his shew of penitence to the last. This calumny, for it was probably no other, received some countenance by Kilmarnock's raising his head after it was laid upon the block, and looking round among the spectators. He died, however, with decency and composure.

Balmerino's behaviour, on this solemn occasion, though very different from that of Kilmarnock, was far from such as his enemies reported. He would, it is well known, could he have obtained it, have accepted of a pardon from the crown; but finding all his applications ineffectual, he prepared himself for death with great fortitude and resolution. The most accurate observers could not discover in his eye or gesture the smallest symptom of concern, much less of fear: but he was so far from being insensible, that he was seen to check his natural boldness, lest the spectators should think it indecent. He maintained his political principles

principles to the last. Kilmarnock seemed to be convinced of the guilt of his conduct.

By this time lord Lovat had, by the indefatigable zeal of his pursuers, been taken, and, together with Murray of Broughton, brought prisoners to London, where they were lodged in the Tower. To the same place had lately been committed the earl of Traquair, who was strongly suspected of having maintained a correspondence with the pretender, and of having had a principal hand in fomenting the rebellion. He was one of the seven associators, who had signed a writing, engaging themselves to venture their lives and fortunes, in restoring the Stuart family to the throne of Great-Britain. The other six were the lord Lovat, Sir James Campbell of Auchinbreck, Cameron, the younger, of Lochiel, John Stuart brother to the earl of Traquair, the earl of Perth, and John Drummond Perth's brother.

Traquair, it appeared, had been stationed at London, as an agent of the party, in order to procure them the necessary intelligence, and sound the disposition of their English friends; but, in this station; it should seem, he had acted little to the satisfaction of the other conspirators, who accused

22 *The History of ENGLAND.*

cused him of negligence, and even infidelity. Whatever might be in this, certain it is, that, on the commencement of the rebellion, he was sent prisoner to the Tower; and the Jacobites alledged that, his heart having failed him, he had made discoveries, which had betrayed the designs, and discovered the schemes of the Pretender and his adherents.

As Lovat was now in custody, a resolution was taken to prosecute him to the utmost extent of the law: it was at the same time determined, that, in the course of his trial, the whole train of the rebellion should be laid open to the public; and this could be done so effectually no way, as by making secretary Murray, who was now likewise a prisoner, an evidence for the crown.

Murray, who had been born a gentleman, and had sentiments of honour, would willingly have excused himself from the disagreeable task of appearing in the character of an informer: but, as he had very little regard for Lovat himself, to whose dilatory and wavering conduct he imputed, in a great measure, the ruin of their cause; and as he had few or no discoveries to make, but what had already been made by the earl of Traquair, he agreed to serve the crown on this important occasion.

So

So great, however, had been Lovat's cunning, that the government found it difficult to proceed against him, as they had done against the other lords, by way of indictment; and the commons were therefore obliged to impeach him before his peers. When he was brought to the bar of the upper house, he appeared to be full of age and infirmities. He had all the indulgence that could possibly be expected: council and solicitors were readily assigned him; and he was even allowed to receive the rents of his estate, as if he had lain under no accusation of treason.

In the course of his trial, which was long and solemn, the evidence against him was clear and convincing, and all the particulars of his character and conduct, which have already been mentioned, were fully demonstrated. Some objections, indeed, were made to the competency of secretary Murray's evidence. It was particularly alleged, that as that gentleman had not surrendered himself before the twelfth day of July 1746, according to the terms of the act of parliament, he ought to be considered in the light of an attainted person, and of one, who was swearing to save his own life.

It

## 24 *The History of* ENGLAND.

It appeared, however, upon a stricter enquiry, that this allegation was altogether groundless. When Murray was brought to the bar of the King's Bench, and asked what he had to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, he pleaded in general, that, long before the expiration of the term mentioned in the act, he had, at Edinburgh, in due form, surrendered himself to Andrew Fletcher, lord justice clerk of Scotland, and one of his majesty's justices of the peace: that the said Andrew Fletcher had then an authority to admit him to make such surrender: that he had, on the twenty-eighth day of June been committed to prison, had ever since remained in custody, and was still ready to take his trial. The attorney-general having, by a warrant from his majesty, confessed this plea to be true, it was recorded in the court of King's Bench; and Murray's evidence was allowed to be competent.

In the course of his examination he behaved with great candour and ingenuity, explaining, in the clearest and most satisfactory manner, the first origin and progress of the rebellion; and by his evidence, and that of other witnesses, as well as by several letters, some of them in Lovat's own hand,  
that

that nobleman's guilt was incontestably proved.

The prisoner made a long speech in extenuation of the crime, of which he was accused. He said that he had once been in a condition to do some service to the government: that, should his life be spared, he might still have it in his power to promote the interest of the same cause: that mercy as well as justice belonged to sovereigns: and that, if his majesty would extend his mercy to him, he would shew his loyalty, and deserve more than twenty such heads as his were worth.

He insisted particularly on the great favour in which he had been with the late king; but that circumstance he was told, tended only to render his subsequent conduct the more inexcusable; and, in spite of all his endeavours to ward off the fatal sentence, he was condemned by the unanimous consent of his peers.

Upon his being remanded to the Tower, he made some attempts to procure a pardon; but finding his applications were wholly ineffectual, he at once discovered his natural disposition, and avowed himself a Jacobite, and a Papist. His behaviour on the scaffold was remarkably chearful and even facetious. He surveyed the croud with attention, ex-

## 26 *The History of ENGLAND.*

mined the axe, jested with the executioner ; and after having repeated some passages from the classicks, intimating that he died a martyr for the liberty of his country, he laid his head upon the block with the utmost indifference.\*

Courts of judicature were opened in Southwark and in the North of England, for the trial of the rebels of inferior note. Out of forty-three, who were condemned at London, no more than seventeen were executed. The like lenity was shewn in other parts of the kingdom ; nor were any put to death, except those, whose conduct had been attended with some circumstances of a very aggravating nature.

In November following Mr. Ratcliff, the titular earl of Derwentwater, who had been taken in a ship bound to Scotland, was arraigned on

\* Lovat, it is said, when taken prisoner, declared to Sir Everard Fawkener, the duke's secretary, that, if the king would grant him a pardon, he would continue, for the future, true to the government ; a conduct, which however, it should seem, he considered as not strictly consistent with the principles of virtue : for he made use of an expression of Virgil, importing, that he was alike prepared for either part, either to play the rogue, or to submit to certain and inevitable death.

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— in utrumque paratus ;  
Seu versare dolos, seu certæ occumbere morti.

on a former sentence passed against him in the year 1716. He refused to acknowledge the authority of the court, and pleaded, that he was a subject of France, honoured with a commission in the service of his most Christian majesty. The identity of his person being proved, a rule was made for his execution: and on the eighth day of December he suffered decapitation with great serenity and composure.

The French, taking advantage of the rebellion in England, had made considerable progress in their conquests on the continent. In the beginning of February, marshal Saxe had laid siege to the town of Brussels; and though the place was defended by a garrison of ten thousand men, he yet compelled it, in six days, to surrender.

In the month of April the French king put himself at the head of his army, amounting to one hundred thousand men, and advanced towards Antwerp, which immediately submitted. Encouraged by this success, he ordered the prince of Conti to invest Mons with a strong detachment, an hundred and forty pieces of cannon, and eighty mortars. Though the garrison exceeded not four thousand men, they continued, for some time, to make a resolute defence; but, on the twenty-seventh day of

## 28     *The History of* ENGLAND.

July, they were obliged to surrender themselves prisoners of war. The reduction of Mons was followed by that of St. Ghuilain and Charleroy; and the French king, having now made himself master of Flanders, Brabant and Hainbault, emitted an edict, re-annexing to his crown all the places that had formerly belonged to it, and had been given up by the treaty of Utrecht.

Mean while the allied army, consisting of forty-four thousand men, lay in their intrenchments behind the Demer; and, as they were so much inferior to the French in number, they had never attempted to interrupt them in their conquests: but being now reinforced by the Hessian troops from Scotland, and a fresh body of Austrians under count Palfy, so as to amount, in the whole, to about eighty thousand, they resolved to take the field, and give a check to the enemy.

Prince Charles of Lorrain, who commanded them, imagined, that the next storm would fall upon Namur: he, therefore, directed his march towards that place, and took post in an advantageous situation on the eighteenth day of July, in sight of the French army, which was encamped at Gemblours. Here he continued till the eighth day of August, when a detachment of the enemy, commanded by count Lowendahl, took

took possession of Huy, where they found a large magazine belonging to the confederates, whose communication with Maestricht was thus cut off.

Mareschal Saxe, on the other hand, took his measures so well, that they were entirely deprived of all supplies of provision. Prince Charles therefore re-passing the Maese, abandoned Namur to the efforts of the enemy, by whom it was immediately invested. The trenches were opened on the thirteenth day of September; and the garrison, consisting of nine thousand Austrians, defended the place with equal skill and resolution; but the cannonading and bombardment were so terrible, that, in a few days, the place was converted into a heap of rubbish; and on the twenty-ninth day of the month the French monarch took possession of this strong fortress, which had formerly withstood such dreadful assaults.

Mean while the allied army, which lay at Maestricht, was joined by some Dutch and Bavarians under the command of Sir John Ligonier; and prince Charles resolved to give the enemy battle. With this view he crossed the Maese, and advanced towards the French, whom he found so advantageously posted at Tongres, that he thought proper to return to Maestricht.

### 30 *The History of ENGLAND.*

On the seventh day of October, he passed the Jaar in his retreat; and his rear was attacked by the enemy, who were repulsed with considerable loss. But mareschal Saxe, being reinforced by a body of troops under the count de Clermont, determined to bring the confederates to an engagement. On the tenth day of the month he passed the Jaar, while the allies took possession of the villages of Liers, Wareem, and Roucoux, and drew up their forces in order of battle.

The enemy advanced in three columns, each of which was preceded by thirty pieces of artillery; and about noon a terrible cannonading began. At two o'clock, prince Waldec on the left was charged with great fury, and after an obstinate resistance was obliged to retire. The villages were attacked in columns by brigades; and as one brigade was repulsed, another succeeded; so that the allies were forced to abandon these posts, and retreat towards Maestricht with the loss of five thousand men. The victory, however, cost the French general about double that number of lives; and, besides was attended with no material advantage.

In this battle Sir John Ligonier, the earls of Crawford and Rothes, Brigadier Douglass, major general Zastrow, and almost

most all the officers of the allies, distinguished themselves greatly by their gallantry and conduct. This action terminated the campaign. The allies, passing the Maese, took up their winter-quarters in the dutchies of Limburgh and Luxemburgh, as the French did theirs in their new conquests.

The campaign in Italy was remarkably favourable to his Hungarian majesty. The British subsidies had enabled his generals and the king of Sardinia to take the field early in the spring. Prince Lichtenstein was at the head of forty thousand Austrians: his Sardinian majesty commanded a body of thirty-six thousand of his own troops; so that their armies, when conjoined, were superior to those of France and Spain, which, including the duke of Modena's troops, did not amount, in the whole, to above seventy-three thousand men.

Another circumstance contributed greatly to the advantage of the Austrian family. A violent dissension had arisen between the French and the Spaniards. These last began to look upon the former as their worst enemies. They immediately raised the siege of Milan, and, without acquainting Maillebois with their intention, they sent their artillery and baggage to Pavia, at which place Don Philip,

Philip, the duke of Modena, and count Gages, had assembled their forces.

Maillebois, apprehensive, lest his communication with Genoa and Provence should be cut off by the Austrians,\* whose strength increased daily in Italy, evacuated all the places about the Tanaro and Po, and retired to Novi. From thence also he was obliged to retire by the vigorous efforts of the king of Sardinia, who took Cassel and Volenza, and having recovered all the Piedmontese fortresses, penetrated into the heart of the Milanese.

The Austrians were no less successful. Prince Lichtenstein commanded a large body of troops in the neighbourhood of Vigevano: Berenclau, at the head of ten thousand Austrians, ravaged the Cremonese, and made himself master of Codogno: and a third body of Austrians, under Lovestein, took possession of Lodi, and beat the Spaniards at Marignano; while count Brown and general Pallavicini marched towards Parma, in order to cut off the communication between the Spanish generals, the marquis of Castellaer, and count Gages. These successes were followed by the reduction of Guastalla; and the marquis of Castellaer, having abandoned Parma, that city, with all its artillery and a large magazine, fell likewise into

into the hands of the Austrians. Don Philip and count Gages, alarmed at the near approach of the enemy, retired under the cannon of Placentia, and intrenching themselves in a strong camp, resolved to wait for the marquis of Castellaer, who was advancing towards them with the utmost expedition.

So great, however, was their inferiority to the Austrians, that they must have been entirely ruined, had it not been for the admirable conduct of count Gages, who took his measures so well, that he was enabled to keep the enemy at bay, until he was joined not only by Castellaer, but likewise by Maillebois, with whom he had now renewed a good understanding; so that, on the third day of June, Don Philip found himself at the head of fifty two thousand men: while the king of Sardinia was advancing, by hasty marches, towards the Po, in order to join Prince Lichtenstein.

Gages's design was to have kept on the defensive, and to have ruined the enemy by obliging them to continue their fatiguing marches; a scheme, which he was the rather inclined to pursue, as he heard they were visited by a great mortality; but this dilatory, though prudent measure, suited not the fiery temper of her most Catholic majesty. She prevailed on her husband, over whom

# 34 *The History of ENGLAND.*

whom she had an entire ascendant, to send an order to Gages, commanding him to attack the Austrians at all events, and under all disadvantages.

Gages was too well acquainted with the temper of his court not to pay obedience to this peremptory injunction. A council of war was immediately summoned, a resolution taken to attack the Austrians in their camp at St Lazaro, notwithstanding its prodigious strength both by art and nature, and a number of new fortifications that had been lately raised.

It is allowed by Bonamici, who was present at the battle, that some of the French and Spanish generals were guilty of the most palpable oversights. Their cavalry were disposed in such a manner, that they could be of no use in the heat of the action. Their march, although performed in the dead of night, was not properly concealed from the enemy, who were prepared to receive them; and they neglected to avail themselves of some advantages, which they gained in the beginning of the attack.

It is confessed, however, that both Gages and Maillebois acquitted themselves with great intrepidity; and that, had they been supported by a body of cavalry, they would, in

in all probability, have obtained the victory. They forced the entrance to the Austrian intrenchments, and seized some cannon which defended the lines; but when they were pushing on towards the camp, they were stopped on a sudden by a broad wet ditch, of which they had received no intelligence, and for the passing of which they were utterly unprovided with every kind of convenience.

Such, however, was the bravery of their troops, they even overcame this unexpected obstruction; and were actually on the point of putting the enemy to flight, when they were attacked in flank by a body of Austrian horse, which damped their ardour, and threw them into confusion. At last, after losing about twelve thousand men in killed and wounded, they were obliged to think of a retreat, which they immediately accomplished with equal skill and expedition.

The loss of the Austrians, in this action amounted to about four thousand. Gages's conduct, during the whole of the engagement, was no less conspicuous than his courage. The Piedmontese were in full march to join the Austrians, and they had so nearly effected their purpose at the time of the battle, that their advanced posts heard the firing of the cannon; and had not Ga-

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### 36 *The History of* ENGLAND.

ges ordered a retreat at the very moment he did, his whole army must have been entirely destroyed.

After the junction of the Austrians and Piedmontese, the king of Sardinia assumed the command of the united army, while Gages and Mallebois, leaving the marquis of Castellaer with four hundred men to defend Placentia, intrenched themselves between the Lambro and the Adda. From this post his Sardinian majesty, who was now at the head of sixty-four thousand men, resolved to dislodge them.

With this view he ordered general Botta, who had succeeded to the command of the Austrians upon prince Litchtenstein's withdrawing from the army on account of his health, to besiege Placentia; while he himself made dispositions to attack Maillebois and Gages, and, if possible, to seize the person of Don Philip, whose head quarters were at Codogno.

In the mean time, an event happened, which bid fair to alter the face of affairs in Europe. This was the death of Philip the fifth of Spain, in the sixty-third year of his age. He had received, a little before his decease, a letter from count Gages, with an account of the battle of Placentia, the loss of which the general attributed to the  
peremp-

peremptory orders that had been sent him from the court of Madrid ; and this circumstance was supposed to have helped to hasten his end.

The chief ingredients of his character, during the last twenty years of his life, were indolence, uxoriousness, and bigotry ; but he was thought to be naturally devoid neither of sense nor of courage. He was less addicted to the interests of France than could well be expected from a prince of the house of Bourbon, or from one, who lay under under such infinite obligations as he owed to the court of Versailles.

The news of Philip's death were no sooner known in the Spanish camp, than Maillebois, ignorant of the sentiments, which his son and successor Ferdinand might entertain with regard to the Italian war, began to think of securing his communication with France ; and, accordingly, while the Austrians were making themselves masters of Lodi, and hemming in Don Philip and his army on all sides, he proposed to retreat to Tortona. This was considered as a most desperate expedient, and as such was opposed by count Gages ; but the French interest at the court of Madrid was so great, that the new king sent an order to his general to

### 38 *The History of ENGLAND.*

carry the scheme into immediate execution.

The confederates accordingly began their march : the king of Sardinia still pursued them ; and this brought on the battle of Rotto Fredò, in which Gages behaved with his usual address and intrepidity, and Maillebois performed all the parts of an able general. The Bourbonites, however, fought under such vast disadvantages, that victory declared itself for their enemies, who took possession of Placentia, and made an irruption into the Western Riviera of Genoa, on the side of Albenga.

After the action, count Gages continued his retreat towards Tortona and Gavi, where he intended to canton his troops, until he should be joined by some fresh forces ; but he had received an order from his new master to resign his command to the marquis de las Minas, who accordingly succeeded him at the head of the army.

The dispositions, which Gages had made, were so excellent, that he might have been able for some time to baffle all the efforts of the enemy ; but, the system of the Spanish court being now altered, Minas had orders to spare his troops, and to proceed, if possible, in the way of negotiation. He continued, for some time, to dissemble his  
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instructions ; and upon the Genoese expressing their apprehensions lest they should be left to the mercy of the enemy, he declared he would defend their city to the last extremity. Notwithstanding this declaration, the Austrians and Piedmontese proceeded in their conquests without interruption ; and Don Philip and Minas abandoned the defence of Genoa, and prosecuted their retreat towards France with the utmost expedition. It was computed, that, from the opening of the campaign, Don Philip's army had lost about forty thousand men, of whom twenty-four thousand had been taken prisoners.

The Genoese, being thus ungratefully deserted by their allies, the Austrians advanced to the gates of their city. The defenceless inhabitants, unable to make any resistance, sent deputies to Botta, from whom they had some reason to expect good treatment ; but that general threw them down a paper containing the following articles : That one of the gates of the city should immediately be delivered up : that the senate should order the garrison of Gavi, as well as that of Genoa, to surrender themselves prisoners of war to the Austrians : that, as long as the war should continue, the Austrians and their allies should have free

40. *The History of ENGLAND.*

access into all the cities and fortresses of the republic: that all the harbours and ports of the state should be open and free to the Austrians and their allies, their sailors and ship-masters: that the Genoese should commit no hostilities against the Austrians or their allies, nor suffer them to be committed by any of their subjects: that they should immediately deliver up all the arms, artillery, and other warlike stores, belonging to the French, Spaniards, and Neapolitans, and discover all the officers and soldiers of these nations now in Genoa, without the least exception: that all the Austrian prisoners and deserters should be given up directly: that the doge, together with six senators, should repair to Vienna, to implore the queen's clemency, and beg her pardon: that they should give four senators as hostages for the performance of these articles; and, besides paying immediately fifty thousand sequins to be distributed among the soldiers, they should oblige themselves to pay to count Chotek, commissary-general of the army in Italy, whatever sum should be agreed on: and, finally, that they should have twenty-four hours and no more to deliberate whether or not they would surrender upon these conditions.

Some

Some of these articles were harsh, others of them were vague ; but all of them were mortifying. The deputies complained that the time allowed was too short for complying with the requests according to law ; but, Botta told them, with an insulting smile, that his battalions should give them law. Upon their return to the city the senate was convened ; and the fortifications of the place being deemed not defensible, a resolution was taken to comply with the demands of the Austrians. Great opposition, however, was made to this measure ; and even a party was formed by some of the citizens to deliver their country from the yoke of the enemy.

The Genoese, being thus abandoned to the mercy of the Austrians, felt all the miseries of a conquered people. The principal gates of their city were immediately seized by a body of fifteen thousand men, under the command of general Botta, who behaved with great insolence and brutality. He pretended, that, though no stipulation had been made for his soldiers living at free quarters, yet that circumstance was a natural consequence of the articles that had been granted, as was likewise a large sum, which he demanded for forage, firing, and other kinds of necessaries.

Nor was his imprudence inferior to his cruelty; for, while he was inflicting these and many other severities upon the unhappy Genoese, he affected to despise them so much, that he left them in possession of their arms and ammunition, and threatened to subject them to military execution, if they dared to refuse immediate compliance with his most exorbitant demands.

The Spaniards being now driven out of Italy, and hotly pursued into the territories of France by the king of Sardinia and general Brown, it became a very important question to Great Britain, and her allies, to what quarter they should next point their arms. Botta, the Imperial general, who was intimately acquainted with the sentiments of his mistress, proposed, that a descent should be made upon Naples, and that the Genoese should be obliged to furnish ships for transporting troops into that kingdom.

Had this attempt been instantly made, it is more than probable that it would have proved successful; for the king of Naples had, at that time, few or no troops on foot, except such as were in the army of Don Philip. But the moderation of Great Britain, and the refined policy of his Sardinian majesty, disappointed the scheme of the Imperial court.

They

They thought that it was more for the interest of the common cause, that Brown, a bold and enterprizing general, should pass the Var, and penetrate into France; while the king of Sardinia should undertake the siege of Antibes, in which the British fleet could be of great service.

While preparations were making for these different enterprizes, Choteck, the Austrian commissary, was busied in settling with the Genoese the sum of money, which they were to furnish, and which he fixed at three millions of Genouins,\* to be paid in three equal payments; the last payment to be made in a fortnight, otherwise the city and citizens to be given up to military execution.

An Austrian commissary is commonly a leech that equally sucks the sovereign and the subject; so that all the prayers and remonstrances of the Genoese to obtain a mitigation of the sum imposed, had little or no influence. They were instantly obliged to make the first payment out of the money deposited in the bank of St. George. They sent a deputation to the court of Vienna itself; and even his holiness, the Pope, employed

\* Amounting, in the whole, to somewhat more than one hundred and three thousand pounds.

ployed his good offices with the empress in their favour : but all applications were to no purpose.

Instead of a diminution, the Imperial court seemed to think, that the Austrian commissary had been too moderate in his demands ; and therefore they sent him a declaration, which little less than doubled the sum, and required the whole to be paid in ready money. It was with the utmost difficulty that the second payment was made ; but the commissary being possessed of a notion, which was not altogether groundless, that though the government of Genoa was exhausted, yet many of their individuals were immensely rich, still continued to advance in his demands ; and the senate took care that all the sums, paid to the Austrians, should be carried to their quarters with great parade, and in full view of the people.

This expedient had the desired effect. It rendered the populace ripe for a revolt, without the senate seeming to be concerned in the matter ; though some of the members were bold enough to disguise themselves in Plebeian dresses, and mixing with the common people, blew up the flame of discontent, which, notwithstanding all the terror of the Austrian arms, at last broke out into an open insurrection.

Among

Among other pieces of artillery, intended to be sent to the siege of Antibes, there was a large mortar, which happened to be overturned in the streets of Genoa. An Austrian officer endeavouring to persuade some of the inhabitants to assist in dragging it down to the harbour, received a refusal; and upon his striking one of them with his cane, he and his men were overwhelmed with a shower of stones, which obliged them for that night to retire.

Next day, when Botta prepared to chastize the insurgents, he found them grown to such a formidable head, that all the valour and discipline of his troops were unable to resist the fury of the people. Add to this, that the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, seized with the same spirit as those of Genoa, had taken up arms and poured into the city.

The consequence was, that the Austrian regulars, notwithstanding some advantages they gained in the beginning of the fray, were driven from one strong post to another; till, at last, Botta applied to the senate, and under pretence of the capitulation, demanded, that they should disarm their soldiers, and join with him in suppressing the insurrection. The senate, however, behaved with so much address, and temporized so well, that they  
neither

## 46 *The History of* ENGLAND.

neither discouraged the insurgents, nor gave Botta any cause to accuse them of infidelity.

Mean while, the insurgents, by the help of some French and Spanish officers, who had been taken prisoners by the Austrians and mingled themselves with the Genoese, were properly disciplined and formed into regiments; and having now fortified all the chief posts of the city, they would no longer hearken to any other terms, than that the Austrians should evacuate the place, restore their artillery, and give them an acquittance of all farther demands. Accordingly Botta, after making another brisk but fruitless attempt to recover the possession of the city, was obliged to abandon it, which he immediately did with great loss to himself, and satisfaction to the inhabitants.

Genoa was, at this time, an object of so much importance to the welfare of the common cause, that all Europe was interested in its fate. The Genoese had always considered the court of England as dictator of all the councils of the allies; and, during the whole course of the war, they had been particularly careful not to give offence to the British nation. Upon the recovery of their liberty, they appointed Doria, one of the most illustrious of their senators, to repair,

as their ambassador extraordinary, to his Britannic majesty, to lay before him a true state of their conduct, and to endeavour to reconcile him to the steps they had taken; not doubting, but if they could procure his good opinion, they should soon be able to compromise all differences with their Imperial and Sardinian majesties.

Doria accordingly set out on his journey, and, upon his arrival at the French court, where he had orders to execute a secret commission, he sent to London, for a passport from the ministry. But the queen of Hungary, who still continued enraged at the Genoese, had represented their conduct in such an unfavourable light to the English ministry, that the king did not think proper to admit Doria into his dominions.

Mean while, general Brown was prosecuting his expedition against France with equal spirit and success. He was at the head of sixty-nine battallions of Imperialists and Piedmontese, besides a great number of irregulars, amounting, in the whole, to about fifty thousand men. Having dislodged the French from all their posts on the Var, he passed that river on the ninth day of November.

Belleisle, who had succeeded Maillebois in the command of the French army, had not been able to assemble above twenty thousand

sand regulars; he was therefore obliged to retreat before the Austrians, who advanced as far as Dragnignan, laying the whole country under contribution.

They then turned off towards Frejus, in order to favour Baron Roth, who, assisted by the British squadron under vice-admiral Medley, had formed the siege of Antibes. While the rest of the fleet were employed in bombarding this place, three ships were ordered to scour the adjacent coast in order to facilitate the operations of count Brown, who expressed the highest satisfaction with the assistance which he received from the navy on this occasion.

Notwithstanding these promising appearances, the French general well knew the difficulty of succeeding in an enterprize of that nature, especially as he was now at the head of fifty thousand men; and Brown, finding it impossible to penetrate any farther without exposing himself to the most imminent danger, immediately raised the siege of Antibes, and repassed the Var, without suffering any considerable loss from the enemy.

The naval transactions of this year redounded very little to the honour of the British nation. Commodore Peyton, who commanded six ships of war in the East Indies, shamefully declined a decisive engagement

ment with a French squadron of inferior strength; and abandoned the important settlement of Madras on the Coast of Coromandel, which was taken without opposition in the beginning of September by the French commodore de la Bourdonnais. Fort St. Davids, and the other British factories in India, would have probably met with the same fate, had not the enemy's fleet in that country been suddenly overtaken and almost destroyed by a sudden tempest.

Nothing of importance happened in America, though it was a scene that seemed to promise the greatest success to the arms of England. The ministry, encouraged by the reduction of Cape Breton, had projected the conquest of Quebec, the capital of Canada, situated on the river St. Lawrence.

With this view they sent commissioners to the governors of the British colonies in North-America, empowering them to raise companies to join the armament from England; and ten thousand troops were actually raised in consequence of these directions; while a powerful squadron and transports, having six regiments on board, were prepared at Portsmouth, and ordered to sail with the first opportunity. But their

## 50 *The History of* ENGLAND.

departure was postponed by unaccountable delays, until the season was thought too far advanced to risque the great ships on the boisterous coast of North-America.

That the armament, however, might not be wholly useless to the nation, it was employed in making a descent upon the coast of Brittany, on the supposition, that Port L'Orient, the repository of all the stores and ships belonging to the French East-India company, might be surprized; or that, should this fail, the attempt would, at least, alarm the enemy; and, by making a diversion, facilitate the operations of count Daun in Provence.

The squadron destined for this expedition consisted of sixteen great ships, eight frigates, and two bomb-ketches, besides store and hospital ships, commanded by Richard Lestock, admiral of the blue. Eight battalions of land-troops, with a detachment of matrosses and bombardiers, were embarked in thirty transports, under the conduct of lieutenant-general Sinclair; and the whole fleet sailed from Plymouth on the fourteenth day of September. On the twentieth they anchored in Quimperley-Bay, at the distance of ten miles from Port L'Orient.

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The militia, reinforced by some detachments from different regiment, were assembled to the number of two thousand, and seemed resolved to oppose the debarkation; but seeing the British troops determined to land at all events, they thought proper to retire. Next day general Sinclair advanced into the country, skirmishing with the enemy in his march; and arriving at the village of Plemure, within half a league from Port L'Orient, summoned that place to surrender.

He was visited by a deputation from the town, which offered to admit the British forces, on condition, that they should be restrained from pillaging the inhabitants, or touching the magazines; and that they should pay for every thing they received.

These terms being rejected, the inhabitants prepared for a vigorous defence; and the English general resolved to besiege the place in form: though he had neither time, artillery, nor forces sufficient for such an undertaking. All his cannon amounted to no more than a few field pieces; and he was obliged to wait for two iron guns, which the sailors dragged up from the shipping.

Had he, indeed, made the attack on the first night after his arrival, when the town

was filled with terror and confusion, and destitute of regular troops, in all probability it might have been easily taken by scalade : but the reduction of it was rendered impracticable by his delay. The ramparts were mounted with cannon from the ships in the harbour : new works were raised with surprizing expedition : the garrison was reinforced by several bodies of regular troops, and great numbers were assembling from all parts ; so that the British forces were in danger of being surrounded in an enemy's country.

Notwithstanding these discouragements, they opened a small battery against the town, which was set on fire in several places by their bombs and red hot bullets ; they likewise repulsed part of the garrison which had made a sally to destroy their works : but their cannon producing no effect upon the fortifications, the fire from the town being greatly superior to theirs, and still continuing to encrease, and admiral Lestock declaring, in repeated messages, that he could no longer expose the ships on an open coast at such a season of the year ; general Sinclair abandoned the siege ; and having caused the two iron cannon to be buried, retreated in good order to the seaside, where his troops were re embarked, having

having sustained very little damage since their first landing.

In the beginning of October, the fleet sailed to Quiberon-Bay, where they destroyed a French ship of the line; and two thousand men being landed, took possession of a fort on the Peninsula; while the little islands of Houvat and Heydic were reduced by the sailors. In this situation the admiral and general continued till the middle of the month, when the forts being demolished, and the troops reembarked, the fleet sailed from the French coast: the admiral returned to England, and the transports with all the soldiers proceeded to Ireland, where they arrived in safety.

The British squadrons were not more successful in the West Indies. The commerce was but indifferently protected. Commodore Lee, stationed off Martinico, allowed a French fleet of merchant ships, and their convoy, to pass by his squadron unmolested; and commodore Mitchel behaved scandalously in a rencounter with the French squadron, under the conduct of M. de Couflans, who, on his return to Europe, took the *Severne*, an English ship of fifty guns.

The cruisers on all sides, English, French, and Spaniards, were extremely active; and

though the English lost the greater number of ships, this difference was more than compensated by the superior value of the prizes taken from the enemy. In the course of this year, thirteen Spanish privateers, and forty-seven merchant vessels, including six register ships, fell into the hands of the British cruisers : from the French they took three men of war, thirty-eight privateers, two Guinea, and ninety-four Domingo and Martinico ships, with several other vessels, amounting in all, to one hundred and forty-three.

The parliament meeting on the eighteenth day of November, his majesty, in his speech to both houses, told them, that the state of the war abroad had received a considerable alteration : that though France had made some further progress in the Netherlands, yet the United Provinces, whose interests were so strictly connected with his, had been protected from that danger, which threatened them at the beginning of the campaign ; and that a strong army remained there for their defence : that it had pleased God to bless the arms of his good allies, the empress queen and the king of Sardinia, with signal successes in Italy : that the acquisitions, made there by the enemy, had been recovered from them ; their forces,  
broken

broken and almost ruined, had been obliged to evacuate that country; and that an irruption was now actually making into France, by which the distresses of that kingdom must be greatly encreased, and a proportionable diversion made in favour of the Low Countries: that, as he had often assured them, that his sole aim in carrying on this just and necessary war, was to bring about a safe and honourable peace, so had he shewn a sincere disposition towards a general pacification: that he had consented to the holding conferences at Breda, in order to try whether his enemies would, in reality, agree to such terms and conditions, as might be consistent with the honour of his crown, the security and true interests of his kingdoms, and his engagements with his allies, whom it was his firm resolution never to abandon: that, nevertheless, whilst they were treating of peace, reason and good policy required they should be prepared for war; and he was there-upon actually concerting with his allies the proper measures for prosecuting the war vigorously another campaign, in case the obstinacy of his enemies should render it necessary: that he was desirous of adjusting those measures as speedily as possible, and of making his preparations with all

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convenient dispatch ; that so the confederate army in the Netherlands might be augmented in time, and the operations on the side of Italy be carried on with vigour : that it should be his particular care to direct the strength of the nation at sea in the most effectual manner, for the defence of his kingdoms and possessions, the protection of the trade of his subjects, and the annoyance of his enemies : that he had ordered the estimates of the ensuing year to be laid before them ; and desired they would grant him such supplies, as should be requisite for their own security, and for carrying on such measures as should be necessary for Great-Britain to pursue in the present important conjuncture : that he was sorry to be obliged, at the same time, to acquaint them, that, by reason of the unavoidable accidents and consequences of war, the funds, appropriated for the support of his civil government, had, for some years past, fallen greatly short of the revenue intended and granted by parliament ; and, therefore he relied on their known affection to him, to find out some method to make good this deficiency.

Addresses of thanks being presented by both houses, the commons proceeded to consider the supply. They voted four hundred

dred and thirty-three thousand pounds to the empress queen of Hungary, and three hundred thousand to the king of Sardinia : they granted four hundred and ten thousand pounds for eighteen thousand Hanoverians, and one hundred sixty-one thousand six hundred and seven pounds for six thousand Hessians. They continued the subsidies to the electors of Cologne, Mentz, and Bavaria, and gave five hundred thousand pounds to his majesty for carrying on the war.

In a word, the whole of the supply amounted to no less than nine millions, four hundred and twenty-five thousand, two hundred and fifty-four pounds. This was raised by a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, by transferable annuities at an interest of four, and a premium of ten per cent, and by new duties on houses and windows, on coaches and wheel carriages.

The extinction, of the rebellion, the zeal of the parliament, and the moderation of the government, in refusing to continue the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus* act for more than three months, produced such a spirit of unanimity in the nation, that the ministry was now at full leisure to turn their thoughts towards peace. Several other circumstances happily concurred to pro-

58 *The History of* ENGLAND.

promote the same end. The king of Denmark, having lately died, had been succeeded by his son, who was married to a princess of the royal family of England; and the new king of Spain seemed extremely well disposed to put an end to the present troubles of Europe.

His Britannic majesty, in order to manifest his inclination to diminish the public expence, consented to the reduction of three regiments of horse into dragoons, and proposed the disbanding the third and fourth troops of his own life-guards. This proposal was laid before the commons by Mr. Fox, secretary at war, who shewed, that it would save about seventy thousand pounds a year to the public, and that, in case of necessity, a more numerous body of troops might be furnished for the same money.

He likewise declared, that this scheme was entirely of his majesty's own devising, and, indeed, that to every considerate person it must naturally appear to be such; as it could not be imagined, that any minister would propose the disbanding so large a part of the guards, which had been established so long for the grandeur and security of the royal family, and which was now  
become

become an appendage to the splendour of the court.

The proposition was received by the commons with the warmest sentiments of gratitude and thankfulness, and was followed by a most loyal and affectionate address to his majesty. Some, however, at that time, foresaw, what afterwards happened, that the enemies of England would consider such a piece of œconomy as a proof of her inability to continue the war; but this supposition was seen to vanish, when it came to be known, that the commons of Britain, who were chiefly to be affected by the expence, had, voluntarily, and almost unanimously, voted a larger sum than had ever been granted in any one year for prosecuting the war with the utmost vigour and alacrity.

The spirit and zeal of the English parliament were, in a great measure, owing to the pride and arrogance of the French court. The British ministry had formed a scheme to detach the new king of Spain from his connections with France, or, at least, to convince him that it was for his interest to make peace with Great-Britain.

The management of this affair was committed to the marquis of Tabernoga, a Spanish refugee, who had either been, or  
pre-

pretended to have been, a particular favourite of his Catholic majesty; but from the course of the proceeding, it did not appear, that he retained the least degree of influence with that prince, or that he was even permitted to return into his presence. Nevertheless, the negotiation went so far, that the king of Portugal, as being the most proper power in Europe, undertook the office of mediator; and Mr. Keene was sent to Lisbon on the part of Great-Britain: but the scheme, however promising in appearance, was found, in the end, to be altogether impracticable.

The queen mother of Spain, assisted by the archbishop of Remnes, and the French ambassador at the court of Madrid, prevailed upon his most Catholic majesty to reject all kind of negotiation without the knowledge and consent of France. The French, indeed, had no objection to the mediation of his most Faithful majesty; but they refused to admit the Dutch deputies to the conferences, on pretence that the republic could not be considered as a neutral power. They even objected to the admission of ministers from the empress queen and the king of Sardinia; and the two courts, being found so obstinate and refractory, the negotiations were immediately broke off.

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The conferences at Breda were not more successful. The French ministry, indeed, in order to preserve the shew of moderation, agreed to the opening a congress; but it soon appeared, that they had no intention of coming to an accommodation. The earl of Sandwich was the British plenipotentiary, the marquis de Puisieux represented his most Christian majesty, the counts Wassenaer and Gilles conducted the affairs of the states-general, and the count de Harrach acted as the minister of the empress queen.

The first proposal made by the earl of Sandwich was, that a suspension of arms should immediately take place; but this was opposed by the French minister, who alledged, that, as his master was then in a career of success, nothing would be more unreasonable than such an expedient. He even declared, that he had no power to admit of the new titles of the court of Vienna, unless his terms were immediately granted.

These terms were, that the empress queen should defray the expences of the war, which, he said, had been occasioned by her obstinacy; and that she should give full satisfaction to all the allies of the French nation. He added, that he had no

authority to consent to any mention of the house of Stewart, as having no right to the crown of Great-Britain; and that, if that was considered as an essential prerequisite, the negotiation was at an end.

From these particulars it evidently appeared, that the French were, by no means, disposed to a peace, but were resolved to try the fate of another campaign, during which they hoped they should either be able to draw off the Dutch from their connections with the allies, or, at least, to make themselves masters of the whole of their country. The conferences therefore immediately broke up, and the ministers returned to their respective courts.

The arrogance of the French, in this negotiation, served, at once, to alarm the fears of the Dutch, and to inflame the resentment and indignation of the English. The former were convinced of the absolute necessity of returning to their ancient plan of confederacy, with the courts of London and Vienna; and the latter perceived, that nothing was to be expected from the people of France, till their marine should be reduced to such a state as might induce them to listen to reasonable terms.

The earl of Sandwich was sent to the Hague, as ambassador extraordinary, in order,

der, if possible, to persuade the states to adopt more vigorous and resolute measures; and the better to second the negociations of the minister, the duke of Cumberland repaired to Holland, to concert the operations of the ensuing campaign.

A convention, accordingly was immediately settled, by which the Dutch engaged to furnish forty thousand men: the king of Great-Britain undertook to supply the same number: the empress promised to provide an army of sixty thousand troops; to effect the junction of sixty thousand Austrians and thirty thousand Piedmontese to make an irruption into France; and lastly, to employ a separate body of fifteen thousand men to keep the king of Sicily in awe.

In the course of this year, the general state of affairs in Europe received a considerable alteration by the marriage of a princess of Saxony with the dauphin of France, whose first wife had lately died. It was commonly supposed, that, by this match, Great-Britain and the empress queen had lost an useful ally; and that his Prussian majesty would think himself thereby absolved from all obligation to observe the treaty of Warsaw.

On the other hand, the empress of Russia expressed a particular attachment to the

cause of the allies, and was actually concerting with Great Britain and the States General the terms of a treaty, by which she was to furnish thirty thousand men, to be sent into Germany or the Netherlands. The princes of the empire declared for a neutrality; so that the house of Austria had nothing to fear from that quarter; and tho' the French had been very assiduous at the Ottoman port, yet they could not prevent it from renewing the ancient treaties of amity with the courts of Vienna and Petersburgh.

In other parts of Europe, however, they had been much more successful; for, besides the elector of Saxony, whom they had attached to their interest, they prevailed upon the kings of Sweden and Denmark to accept of subsidies; and they deemed themselves secure against all kind of danger from the Austrian family, whose growing power the king of Prussia, they thought, would take proper care effectually to restrain. They likewise found great relief from the spirited conduct of the Genoese, who had totally thrown off the Spanish yoke, and whom, for this reason, they resolved to support to the utmost of their power.

But notwithstanding the pomp, gaiety, and splendour of the court, the discontents of the public increased every day; and  
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some of the ministers endeavoured to persuade their master, that he ought to change his measures of government, and conclude a peace almost upon any terms, rather than continue a war so ruinous and destructive to his true interest.

It was with this view that Maurepas, secretary of the marine, produced his famous scheme for rendering France a maritime power, superior to the English and Dutch in conjunction. For this purpose he proposed, that upon the re-establishment of peace, the annual sum of twenty millions of livres should be withdrawn from the land service, and applyed to the building ships of war; an expedient, which, he pretended, would, in the space of sixteen years, make France mistress of a marine, more formidable than that of all the world besides.

Maurepas had introduced some new regulations into the method of appointing convoys; and these having happened to prove successful, his present scheme met with the readier approbation. He then opened the remaining part of it. This consisted in a plan of settlements to be made upon the continent; and which, by the time that the French marine should arrive at its full vigour, would entirely dispossess the English of their dominions in that quarter of the

66 *The History of* ENGLAND.

world, and in both the Indies, and leave even the Spaniards at the mercy of the French.

He agreed, at the same time, that the measures concerted by his most Christian Majesty for prosecuting the war another campaign with the utmost vigour, were both necessary and wise, because they would forward the great work of peace. Other arguments were brought to enforce this plan. The French could no longer depend on the king of Prussia, who had declared for a neutrality: they were now destitute of the Imperial name, authority, and troops: the forces of the Elector Palatine, and the Landgrave of Hesse, no longer acted on the side of France; and the king of Naples had been obliged to recall his troops into his own dominions.

Notwithstanding these and many other discouragements, the king of France prepared to make greater efforts in the field than ever he had done in any former period, and to open the campaign in the Netherlands at the head of one hundred and fifty thousand men; while a separate army of sixty thousand was appointed to act in Provence. To give the greater effect to this immense force, he renewed, in the person of mareschal Saxe, the title of mareschal de camp general,



WILLIAM D. of CUMBERLAND



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general, which had not been possessed by any person since the time of the great Turenne, and by which the new mareschal had a right to command not only the other mareschals of France, but even the princes of the blood.

The duke of Cumberland had made excellent dispositions for taking the field early in the spring; and accordingly in February\* his troops were in motion. The duke, with the English, Hanoverians, and Hessians, fixed his head quarters at the village of Tilberg; the prince of Waldeck was posted with the Dutch at Breda; and mareschal Bathiani collected the Austrians and Bavarians in the neighbourhood of Vento.

Saxe, in the mean time, kept his troops in their cantonments between Bruges, Antwerp, and Brussels, where they were furnished with plenty of provisions, and eased of all kind of labour and fatigue; whereas the confederates, through the inexcusable negligence of the Dutch and Austrians, were ill provided with even the common necessities of life, and besides were obliged to be altogether inactive.

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A. D. 1747.

## 68 *The History of ENGLAND.*

This inactivity lost to the allies all the advantages they had promised to themselves from their early taking the field; while mareschal Saxe, by keeping his troops in good condition, had leisure to form a plan of operations, which, if steadily pursued, might do credit to his new dignity. This was no other than to carry the arms of France into the very heart of the United-Provinces, by instantly attacking Dutch Brabant.

A scheme for this purpose was transmitted to the court of Versailles, in order to receive the king's approbation. There it met with a violent opposition from such of the ministry, as had adopted the project of peace and of commerce. They represented, that a direct attack upon the Dutch territories must necessarily be attended with a revolution in their government, and, perhaps too, with an alteration in the system of Europe, which might be productive of the most fatal consequences to the French nation. The scheme, however, was strongly supported by Tencin and his party; and, the king being of the same opinion, orders were sent to the mareschal to begin his operations without delay.

As a previous step to this invasion, a declaration was drawn up in the name of the French monarch, and communicated to the  
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states by the Abbé de la Ville, his minister at the Hague. In this declaration an account was given of the several advances and propositions, which the French king had made to the States-general in the years 1742 and 1745; but which, in reality, were so vague and frivolous, that they hardly deserve to be mentioned. Complaint was then made of the States having afforded an asylum in their dominions to the enemies of France, and thereby given them an opportunity of disturbing the territories, which she had conquered from her Hungarian majesty.

The memorial farther imported, that compelled only by these circumstances, and the conduct of the United Provinces, his most Christian majesty had permitted the general of his forces to take indifferently all the measures which his military skill and experience should suggest, to prevent the enemy's army from molesting the lawful possession of his conquests, and to secure the repose of his new subjects: that had he, at the beginning of the last campaign, entered, with his whole army, on the territory of the States-general, who had afforded a retreat to the troops at enmity with France, he had been justified in the eyes of all the world; but believing the sincerity of the overtures that were made to him,

him, he had suspended the execution of an enterprize, which not only the laws of war, but the bad condition of the allied army, would have equally warranted : that the republic, in the opinion of all Europe, intended, under the veil of negotiation, to procure the necessary delays for warding off its approaching danger, and to make, if possible, still greater efforts for continuing the war : that the Dutch had thrown in difficulties at the opening of the conferences at Breda, contrary to the promises they had given to his majesty, that they would not embarrass the negotiations for peace : that they had suffered their troops in the year 1744, to enter into the territories of France, in the Plains of Lisle, without pretending by this invasion, to make direct war on the king : that, in like manner, his majesty, in this step of entering the territory of the republic, designed not to come to a rupture ; but only to stop or prevent the effects of the protection, which they gave to the troops of the queen of Hungary and the king of England : that it was not reasonable to expect, that the king should, to his own prejudice, shew a scrupulous regard to the pretended neutrality of powers acting as auxiliaries to his enemies ; while they  
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themselves exercised the greatest hostilities against his majesty's allies, even against such as had never once exceeded the bounds of the strictest neutrality : that, nevertheless, the king, to shew he was still mindful of what he owed to himself, and to those benevolent sentiments, which he continued to entertain for the States-general, had expressly enjoined the commandant of his army to take care, that the French troops, entering on the territories of the United-Provinces, should observe the strictest discipline, and regulate their operations only from necessity : that his majesty, far from giving any disturbance to the religion, the government, or to the commerce of the republic, was, on the contrary, disposed to grant all manner of protection to the subjects of the States-general ; persuaded, as he was, that their conduct would be answerable to these his favourable intentions : that, in order to give a more convincing proof of the sincerity of his design, which was only calculated to frustrate the evil disposition of his enemies, and to overcome their aversion to all proposals for an accommodation, his majesty declared, that he would consider the places and countries, of which he should be obliged to take possession for his own security, as no other than a pledge, which, as soon as  
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the republic should give him a sufficient assurance that they would no longer assist the enemies of his crown, he would readily restore : that he desired only the re-establishment of the public tranquillity upon just and solid foundations ; and the interest, which he took in the safety and happiness of the States-general, caused him to behold with regret, how they persisted in sacrificing, to certain foreign considerations and unjust prejudices, their treasures, their troops, their territories, their tranquillity, and, perhaps, even the form of their government.

Such was the substance of this famous memorial, which was no sooner published, than it filled all Europe with amazement, terror, and indignation. It was now evident that the spirit of the Dutch people must soon triumph over the corruption of their magistrates : and that the prince of Orange would be elected stadtholder of the United-Provinces. This was a step, which, of all others, the French court dreaded the most ; and the true intention of the memorial was to amuse the common people of Holland, and divert them, if possible, from that resolution.

The very day, on which the declaration was presented, marschal Saxe began his  
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military operations. He intrusted the execution of them to his friend and relation, count Lowendahl, who, with the marquis de Contades, marched from Ghent, and approaching the western extremity of Brabant, with twenty-seven thousand men, laid siege to Slays, which surrendered in a few days. The same was the fate of Sas-Van-Ghent, and of several other places of less importance.

The enemy then sat down before Hulst, to the relief of which a detachment of three English battalions was sent under general Fuller. Part of these battalions, being placed in the fort of Sanburg, which covered Hulst, continued, for some time, to make a vigorous defence, and even sallied out, with success, upon the enemy.

The royal Scotch distinguished themselves particularly on this occasion. Their major, Sir Charles Erskine, was killed; lieutenant colonel Abercrombie was wounded; and many of the subalterns and common men cut in pieces. At last, being over-powered by numbers, they were obliged to retreat under the conduct of lord John Murray, their colonel.

Hulst, it is allowed, might have made a good defence, and La Rocque, the governor, amused the allies with pompous

accounts of the strength of the place, and with repeated assurances of his being able to hold out for a considerable time. The duke of Cumberland exerted himself with surprizing activity in order to save so important a fortress; but just as he arrived in sight of the town with a strong body of forces, it was infamously surrendered by the governor, who happened to be in the French interest; nor had he any other intimation of this event than a general discharge of the artillery from the fortifications, by which a great many of his men were killed, and even his own person was put in the most imminent danger.

While Lowendahl was proceeding thus in the conquest of Brabant, mareschal Saxe, with an army of one hundred and twenty thousand men, was covering the French conquests in the Low Countries, and observing the motions of the main body of the confederates, who were posted in the neighbourhood of Breda and Boisleduc; and who, though lately reinforced by some thousand men from England, yet found it impossible to make head against the enemy.

The memorial of the French court had not been answered by the States-general; because, as they afterwards rightly observed, it left them no other choice, than that of defend-

defending themselves by force of arms. Even the common people seemed to be sensible of its insolence; and affirmed, that it meant to deprive them of the most essential right of a sovereign power, that of fulfilling their most solemn engagements with their natural and ancient allies.

Count Lowendahl, upon his irruption into the Dutch territories, received a spirited remonstrance from two officers of the army, against such an unjust and unprovoked attack. He treated the officers with great politeness, and assured them, that the invasion was secretly connived at by the Dutch government itself; and that they must not be surprized if the French met with very little resistance in their progress.

The manner, in which the Dutch defended their towns, gave but too much reason for believing the assertion. The friends of the republic, however, who were keen for choosing a stadtholder, made an excellent use of this declaration, which they printed and dispersed with great care and industry.

This expedient had the desired effect. The people were inflamed to a degree of enthusiasm. They exclaimed, that they were now in a worse condition, than when invaded by Lewis the fourteenth in 1672; and that since they had been betrayed by

their governours, it was high time to take the administration out of their hands. It next naturally occurred to them, that they had no other resource than what they had then employed; namely the election of a stadtholder; and that that stadtholder should be at the head of the house of Orange,

The name of this prince was William Henry Frizo, son of John William Frizo, prince of Nassau Diets, who had been left by William the third of England, successor to the hereditary dominions of the house of Orange. The present prince, as has been already observed, had espoused the princess Anne, eldest daughter to his Britannic majesty; but was more illustrious for his virtues and his family, than either for his person or his possessions.

He was hereditary stadtholder of Friesland, and he had lately been elected into the same post by the provinces of Groningen and Guelderland; but the rest of Holland shewed very little regard to his distinguished merit, and even his alliance with the royal family of England was so far from recommending him to their favour, that it seemed rather to render him the object of their jealousy: for they had actually refused him that common rank in their armies, which they had

had made no scruple of bestowing on foreigners.

Upon the first news of the French invasion, he sent a letter to the province of Zealand, informing them, that the imminent danger, to which the country was exposed, had induced him to make them a tender of his service; and that, on the first intimation of their pleasure, he was ready to repair to such places as they should think fit, in order to contribute whatever lay in his power towards the good of the common cause.

The states of Zealand, had no sooner received this letter, than they appointed him their captain-general and admiral, Their example was followed by Rotterdam and the whole province of Holland; and, on the second day of May, the prince of Orange was invested with the power and dignity of stadtholder, captain-general, and admiral of the United Provinces.

On the fifteenth day of May, the prince was conducted into the assembly of the states, by the counts of Randwich and Bentinck, the latter of whom made a speech to the following effect. "The re-establishment," said he, "of the ancient form of government will restore concord in the republic, cause deliberations to be brought sooner to maturity, give activity to our

“ lutions, and occasion a wise distribution of  
 “ rewards and punishments, without which  
 “ no government can long subsist. By  
 “ such means, and the conduct of the  
 “ princes of Orange, the republic has been  
 “ raised to its present pitch of felicity and  
 “ grandeur, from the low and contempti-  
 “ ble ebb, to which it was reduced ; so low  
 “ indeed, as to have neither force nor di-  
 “ rection, and to be the derision of its ene-  
 “ mies, and a useless burden to its friends.  
 “ We doubt not but the prince, we have  
 “ the honour to present to you, will tread  
 “ in the steps of his glorious ancestors, and  
 “ heartily concur with us in delivering the  
 “ republic, now invaded, and preserve us  
 “ from the yoke of a treacherous and de-  
 “ ceitful neighbour, who makes a jest of  
 “ good faith, honour, and the most solemn  
 “ treaties.”

After this, the prince made a speech, in  
 which he greatly reproached his enemies  
 for postponing him in the army; though  
 he seemed, at the same time, in some sense,  
 to excuse them, by frankly acknowledging,  
 that he was doubtful whether he possessed  
 that degree of military knowledge, which  
 was requisite for his high station. He pro-  
 mised, however, to exert his utmost endea-  
 vours in studying to acquire it.

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“ When I reflect,” continued he, “ on  
“ what that trust demands of me, I consider  
“ also what the present situation of the  
“ republic requires, at a time when it  
“ is attacked by a powerful enemy abound-  
“ ing in resources; while the strength of  
“ the nation is, in some measure, ener-  
“ vated by the decline of its commerce,  
“ by a neglect of military discipline, and,  
“ what is of still greater importance, by  
“ a great remissness in the practice of re-  
“ ligious worship.” He then proceeded,  
and concluded his speech in a strain so  
nervous, pathetic, and affecting, as inspired  
the whole assembly with a high idea of his  
wisdom, eloquence, and public spirit.

The good effects of this alteration in the  
Dutch government were immediately per-  
ceived. All commerce and contracts with  
the French were prohibited: the peasants  
were armed and exercised: a resolution  
passed for making a considerable augmenta-  
tion of the army: a council of war was  
established for enquiring into the conduct  
of the governours, who had given up the  
frontier towns: and orders were issued for  
commencing hostilities against the French,  
both by sea and land.

Mean while the duke of Cumberland,  
with his whole army, took post between  
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the two Nethes, to cover Bergen-op-Zoom and Maestricht; and mareschal Saxe called in his detachments, with a design of coming to a general engagement. On the twenty-second day of May, the French king arrived at Brussels, and his general determined to undertake the siege of Maestricht.

With this view he advanced towards Louvain; and the confederates perceiving his aim, began their march to take post between that town and the enemy. On the first day of July they took possession of their ground, and were drawn up in order of battle, with their right at Bilsen, and their left at Wirle, having in the front of the left wing the village of Val, in which they posted five battalions of British and Hanoverian infantry.

The French had taken possession of the heights of Herdeeren, immediately above the allies; and both armies cannonaded each other till the evening. In the morning the enemy's infantry marched down the hill, in a vast column of ten battalions in front and as many in depth, and attacked the village of Val, which was fortified and defended with incredible resolution.

The assailants suffered terribly in their approach from the cannon of the confederates, which was served with admirable skill  
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and dexterity; and they met with such a warm reception from the British musquetry as they could not withstand: but, when they were broken and dispersed, fresh brigades succeeded with invincible perseverance. The confederates being thus overpowered by numbers, were obliged to abandon the village; yet, being sustained by four regiments, they returned to the charge, and repulsed the enemy with great slaughter. Nevertheless, count Saxe continued pouring in fresh battalions; and the French recovered and maintained their ground in the village, after it had been lost and carried four several times. The action was chiefly confined to this post, which was crammed with the bodies of the dead and dying.

At noon the duke of Cumberland ordered the whole left wing to advance against the enemy, whose infantry began to recoil. Prince Waldeek led on the Dutch, and mareschal Bathiani brought up the Austrians; but neither of them exerted themselves with their usual intrepidity. Victory, however, seemed for some time to incline to the side of the allies; when the fortune of the day took a sudden turn to their prejudice. Several squadrons of Dutch horse, posted in the center, gave way, and flying at full speed, overthrew five battalions of  
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## 82 *The History of ENGLAND.*

infantry, that were advancing from the body of reserve.

The French cavalry, taking advantage of this confusion, rushed in upon them with great impetuosity, and penetrated through the lines of the allied army, which was thus divided about the center. The duke of Cumberland, who exerted himself with great courage and activity, in endeavouring to rally his broken forces, was in danger of being taken ; and in all probability the confederates would have been put to a total rout, had not Sir John Ligonier taken the resolution, of sacrificing himself and a part of the troops to the safety of the army.

At the head of some British regiments of dragoons, and a few squadrons of Imperial horse, he charged the whole line of the French cavalry with such irresistible fury, as gave a check to their pursuit, and enabled the duke of Cumberland to effect an orderly retreat to Maestricht. He himself was taken prisoner in this gallant attack ; but the regiment he commanded retired with deliberation.

Such was the battle of Val, in which it may be truly said that the British troops, assisted by a few Hanoverians and Hessians, opposed the whole French army ; and had not the Dutch, by their infamous cowardice, suf-

suffered the flank of the left wing of the confederates to be exposed, the victory, in all probability, would have fallen to their side. The loss of the allies, in killed, wounded, and missing, amounted to about six thousand; whereas that of the French was near double the number.

Besides Sir John Ligonier, major-general count D'Yffemburg, major-general Bland, colonel Conway and lieutenant-colonel lord Robert Sutton, were, some of them wounded, and all of them made prisoners. In a word, almost the whole of the loss fell upon the English, Hessians, and Hanoverians: that of the Dutch and Austrians being too inconsiderable to be named. The allies, however, brought off all their artillery, except a few field pieces: they even took seven standards and eight pair of colours, with seven hundred prisoners, including sixty officers, some of them persons of distinction.

The behaviour of the Dutch in this battle gave but too much room to suspect their fidelity; and the pride of marshal Bathiani, which had been piqued in the beginning of the action, was thought to be the true reason why he did not exert himself with greater spirit and alacrity.

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## 84 *The History of ENGLAND.*

Some were inclined to put very unfavourable constructions upon the conduct both of the Dutch and the Austrians. They alleged, that the French and they were in concert to sacrifice the left wing of the allies ; and this insinuation was rendered the more probable by the cowardly behaviour of the Dutch, and by the small number of troops, which the enemy drew up to oppose the Austrians. Whatever be in this, certain it is, that mareschal Saxe acknowledged he was several times repulsed by the valour of the British troops ; and his master was heard to say, “ that he thought the English “ not only paid all, but fought all.”

After the battle the confederates passed the Maese, and encamped in the dutchy of Limberg, so as to cover Maestricht : while the French king remained with his army in the neighbourhood of Tongres. Mareschal Saxe, having, for some time, amused the allies with marches and counter-marches, at length detached count Lowendahl with thirty-six thousand men to invest Bergen-op-Zoom, the strongest fortification of Dutch Brabant, the master-piece of the famous engineer Coehorn, never conquered, and generally deemed impregnable.

It was defended by a garrison of three thousand men under the command of the prince

prince of Hesse Philipstahl; and was well provided with artillery, ammunition and necessaries. The enemy appeared before it on the fifteenth day of July, and summoned the governour to surrender. The prince of Saxe-Hilburghausen was sent to its relief, with twenty battalions, and fourteen squadrons of the troops that could be most conveniently assembled: he entered the lines of the town, where he remained in expectation of a strong reinforcement from the confederate army; and the old baron Cronstrom, whom the stadtholder had appointed governour of Dutch Brabant, assumed the command of the garrison.

The besiegers carried on their attacks with great activity; and the troops in the town defended themselves with equal spirit and resolution. The eyes of all Europe were turned upon this siege, the most important that had happened during the whole course of the war: count Lowendahl received several reinforcements; and a considerable body of troops was detached from the allied army, under the command of baron Schwartzemburg, to co-operate with the troops that were already in the lines.

From the sixteenth day of July to the fifteenth of September, the siege exhibited an uninterrupted scene of horror and destruc-

## 86 *The History of* ENGLAND.

tion : desperate sallies were made by the garrison, and mines sprung with the most dreadful effects : the works began to give way, the town was reduced to ashes, and the trenches were filled with carnage : nothing was seen but fire and smoke ; nothing heard but one continued roar of bombs and cannon. Still, however, the chief damage fell upon the besiegers, who were slain in heaps ; while the garrison suffered very little, and could be occasionally relieved or reinforced from the lines.

In a word, it was generally believed, that Löwendahl would be obliged to abandon the enterprize ; and by this belief the governour of Bergen-op-Zoom seems to have been lulled into a fatal security. For, in the morning of the sixteenth, the French general having thrown a prodigious quantity of bombs into the ravelin, his troops threw themselves into the fossé, mounted the breaches, forced open a sally-port, and entered the place almost without opposition.

So great had been the negligence of the governour, that the enemy had time to extend themselves along the curtains, and form in order of battle, before the garrison could be assembled. Cronstrom was asleep, and the soldiers on duty had been surprized by

by the suddenness and impetuosity of the attack. Though the French had taken possession of the ramparts, they did not gain the town without a vigorous dispute. Two battalions of the Scotch troops, in the pay of the States-general, were assembled in the market-place, and attacked them with such fury, that they drove them from street to street, until, fresh reinforcements arriving, the Scots were compelled to retreat in their turn: yet they disputed every inch of ground, and fought until two thirds of them were killed upon the spot.

Then they brought off the old governour, abandoning the place to the enemy; while the troops that were incamped in the lines, retreating in the utmost precipitation, all the forts in the neighbourhood immediately surrendered to the victors, who now became masters of the whole navigation of the Schelde.

Cronstrom's behaviour during the whole of this siege was negligent and careless; but, in the last attack, it was altogether inexcusable. Though there were twenty thousand men in the lines, he had not brought one of them into the town; and, had it not been for the bravery of the British troops, he would have been taken prisoner in his bed.

## 88 *The History of* ENGLAND.

The French king was no sooner informed of Lowendahl's success, than he promoted him to the rank of mareschal of France, appointed count Saxe gouvernour of the conquered Netherlands, and returned in triumph to Versailles. In a little time after this transaction, both armies were distributed into winter quarters, and the duke of Cumberland returned to England.

The campaign in Italy was not equally favourable to the French, though their army in that quarter was superior to the enemy's. Mareschal Belleisle, having compelled the Imperial general to abandon Provence, made himself master of Nice, Montalban, Villa-franca, and Ventimiglia; while the Austrians were forced to retire towards Final. The mareschal, encouraged by this success, projected an irruption in the Piedmontese territories, the execution of which he committed to the care of his brother the chevalier.

The chevalier, accordingly, set out on his expedition, and, for some time, proceeded without interruption; but, happening to be killed in a skirmish with the enemy, his troops were so dispirited, that they abandoned the enterprize.

The French, however, were more successful in supporting the Genoese against  
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the designs of the Austrians. The latter were highly exasperated against the former; and Schuylemberg, who commanded the Imperial troops, determined, at all events, to attempt the re-conquest of Genoa, though he was but very ill provided with artillery for the purpose.

The French ministry were too well acquainted with the importance of the republic, not to exert themselves with the utmost vigour in giving it assistance. Large sums of money were remitted to the state, in order to put it in a posture of defence: engineers and officers were sent to discipline their troops, and repair their fortifications: the duke of Boufflers was appointed as ambassador extraordinary, the better to animate them to a vigorous resistance: and a large body of troops was detached from Belleisle's army, to co-operate with their forces; but these falling in with the British Fleet, were either taken, or driven back to France. Some of them, however, arrived at Genoa, and, by their spirit and resolution, contributed greatly to encourage the inhabitants.

Schuylemberg, in the mean time, sent a messenger to Turin, in order to represent to his Sardinian majesty, that he was altogether unable, without his assistance, to make

90 *The History of ENGLAND.*

head against the Genoese, strengthened, as they now were, by the French and Spaniards, and supported underhand by the court of Naples.

The king of Sardinia, was, by no means, desirous of seeing the house of Austria too powerful in Italy; and he, therefore, lent a deaf ear to the importunities of the messenger; but being, at last, overcome by the entreaties of the British ambassador, he agreed to grant the desired reinforcements on the following conditions: that the dominions of the Genoese, excepting their city, should be equally divided between him and the Austrians, the former to have the western, and the latter the eastern Riviera; but that the port of Lima, when reduced, should be given to Francis, emperor of Germany, and grand duke of Tuscany; and that, in consequence of this agreement, his Sardinian majesty should furnish twelve battalions and a train of artillery, to be immediately sent to the siege of Genoa.

Schuytemberg, however, before he commenced hostilities, endeavoured to persuade the Genoese to submit to his mistress; but finding all his remonstrances ineffectual, he began his operations; and having forced the passage of the Bochetta, seemed, for some

some time, in a fair way of succeeding in his attempt.

The duke of Boufflers commanded the troops in Genoa; while marechal Belleisle lay at Ventimiglia, with a view to penetrate into Piedmont and Lombardy, and compel the Austrians to abandon the siege. It was chiefly owing to this latter general, that the Genoese were delivered from the danger that threatened them; for, though Schuylemberg was successful in all his attacks upon the out forts of the city, yet Belleisle proceeded with such incredible rapidity in his conquests, that the Austrians were obliged to relinquish the siege, and march to the relief of the Piedmontese territories. Nothing else of importance happened in the course of this campaign; and about the middle of October the armies, on both sides, were put into winter quarters.

The naval transactions of this year were remarkably spirited. The French king had, in the course of the preceeding summer, fitted out an expensive armament under the command of the duke D'Anville, for the recovery of Cape-Breton; but it was rendered ineffectual by storms, distempers, and the death of the admiral.

Not yet discouraged by these disasters, he resolved to renew his attempts against the Bri-

British colonies in North-America, and their settlements in the East-Indies. With this view two squadrons were equipped at Brest, one to be commanded by the commodore de la Jonquiere ; the other, destined for India, by monsieur de St. George.

The British ministry, being informed of these preparations, resolved to intercept both squadrons, which were to sail together. Accordingly vice admiral Anson and rear admiral Warren took their departure from Plymouth with a strong fleet, and directed their course towards cape Finisterre on the coast of Gallicia. On the third day of May they came up with the French squadrons, commanded by la Jonquiere and St. George, consisting of six large ships of war, as many frigates and four armed vessels equipped by their East-India company, having under their convoy twenty-nine ships laden with merchandize. The ships of war immediately shortened sail and formed a line of battle ; while the rest, under the protection of the six frigates, stretched away to the Westward. The British squadron was likewise drawn up in a line of battle ; but Mr. Anson, perceiving that the enemy began to sheer off, now their convoy was at a considerable distance, hauled

hauled in the signal for the line, and hoisted another for giving chase and engaging.

The English fleet accordingly continued the pursuit, and, about four o'clock in the afternoon, the engagement began with great fury. The enemy maintained the battle with equal courage and conduct, until they were over-powered by numbers, and then they struck their colours. About seven hundred of them were killed and wounded in this action. The English lost about five hundred, and among those captain Grenville, commander of the *Defiance*, a young gentleman of the most promising talents.

A considerable quantity of bullion was found in the prizes, which were brought to Spithead in triumph; and the money being landed, was conveyed in waggons to the bank of London. His majesty thought this action of so much importance, that he advanced Mr. Anson to the peerage, and honoured Mr. Warren with the order of the bath.

On the twentieth day of June, commodore Fox, cruising with six ships of war, in the latitude of Cape Ortegal in Galicia, took forty-six French ships, richly laden from St. Domingo, after they had been abandoned by their convoy.

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But the French marine suffered another more important loss, in the month of October. Rear admiral Hawke had sailed from Plymouth in the beginning of August, with fourteen ships of the line, to intercept a fleet of French merchant ships bound for the West-Indies. He cruised, for some time, on the coast of Brittany; and at length the French fleet sailed from the isle of Aix, under convoy of nine ships of the line, besides frigates, commanded by monsieur Letenduer.

On the fourteenth day of October, the two fleets were in sight of each other, in the latitude of Belleisle: the French commodore immediately ordered one of the great ships and the frigates to proceed with the trading vessels, while he, with the rest, formed the line of battle and waited the attack. At eleven in the forenoon, admiral Hawke finding, that he lost time in forming the line of battle, and that the enemy were endeavouring to make the best of their way, displayed the signal to chase; and, in half an hour, both fleets were engaged.

The battle lasted till night, when all the French ships, except two, had struck to the English flag. The French captains maintained the fight with uncommon fortitude and resolution, nor did they yield till their ships  
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were disabled. Their loss in killed and wounded amounted to eight hundred, and about three thousand of them were taken prisoners. Of the English were slain about one hundred and fifty, among whom was captain Saumarez, a gallant officer, who had served under lord Anson in his expedition to the Pacific Ocean.

Immediately after the action, admiral Hawke dispatched the Weazle sloop to commodore Legge, who commanded a squadron at the Leeward Islands, with intelligence of the French fleet of merchant ships, outward-bound, that he might take the necessary measures for intercepting them in their passages to the French Islands. In consequence of this advice, he redoubled his vigilance, and had the good fortune to make prize of a considerable number of the enemy.

Admiral Hawke, in his letter to the board of Admiralty, declared, that all his captains behaved like men of honour during the engagement, except captain Fox, who had suffered one of the French ships to escape, and whose conduct he therefore desired might be subjected to an enquiry. That gentleman was accordingly tried by a court-martial, and suspended from his command, for having followed the advice of his officers, contrary to his own better judgment; but, as he had  
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always been esteemed a brave and active officer, he was soon restored, and afterwards promoted to the rank of admiral.

In the Mediterranean, vice-admiral Medley blocked up the Spanish squadron in the harbour of Carthage; assisted the Austrian general on the coast of Genoa, and intercepted some succours sent from France to the assistance of that republic. At his death, which happened on the fifth day of August, the command of the squadron devolved on rear-admiral Byng, who had been sent to reinforce him, and who proceeded on the same plan of operations.

Notwithstanding the advantages, which the English had gained in Europe and America, their affairs in the East-Indies, continued to wear but a very indifferent aspect. Madras was still in the hands of the enemy, who, in all probability, would have made themselves masters of Fort St. David likewise, had not commodore Griffin arrived in those seas with a reinforcement for the British squadron, which now composed a very formidable force, and deterred the French from proceeding with the siege.

Griffin, however, who seconded Peyton in the command of the fleet, found himself altogether unable to attempt the conquest of Pondicherry, or the recovery of Madras, the  
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the fortifications of which last place had been improved by the enemy. Nevertheless, he blocked up Pondicherry for a considerable time, and reduced it to great difficulties, though the French squadron was superior to his; and he even burnt the Neptune, one of their men of war, in the road of Madras.

But the French indemnified themselves by decoying into the same road, the princess Amelia, an English East-India ship, the commander of which was ignorant that the place had been taken by the enemy. This misfortune was occasioned by the English colours being still kept flying on the bastions of the fortress: and the same deception would, in all probability, have proved fatal to several other ships, had it not been for the vigilance of the officers.

The East-India company were sensible of the critical situation to which their affairs were reduced; and they therefore represented the matter to the ministry, who resolved to equip a fresh armament, which, when added to the ships already in the Indies, should be able to undertake the siege of Pondicherry. For this service a good number of independent companies were raised, and set sail in November, with a strong squadron, under the conduct of rear-admiral Boscawen,

an officer of approved capacity and valour.

Upon his arrival on the coast of India, he immediately blocked up Pondicherry by sea, and invested it by land with a small army of four thousand Europeans and about two thousand natives of that country. He prosecuted the enterprize with great spirit, and took the fort of Area Coupan, at the distance of three miles from the town; then he made his approaches to the place, against which he opened batteries, while it was bombarded and cannonaded by the shipping.

But the fortifications were so strong, the garrison so numerous, and the engineers of the enemy so expert in their profession, that he made very little progress, and sustained considerable damage. At length his army being reduced by sickness, and the rainy season approaching, he ordered the artillery and stores to be re-embarked; and raising the siege on the ninth day of October, returned to Fort St. David, without being molested in his march by the enemy. In the sequel, several ships of his squadron, and about twelve hundred sailors, perished in a hurricane.

The naval force of Great-Britain was more successful in the West-Indies. Rear-admiral Knowles, with a squadron of eight ships

ships and two frigates, attacked Fort Louis on the south side of Hispaniola, which, after a short, but vigorous defence, was surrendered and demolished. Then he made a fruitless attempt upon St. Jago de Cuba, and returned to Jamaica, extremely mortified at his disappointment, which he imputed to the misconduct of captain Dent, who was tried in England by a court martial, and honourably acquitted.

In September, admiral Knowles cruising in the neighbourhood of the Havannah, with seven ships of the line, fell in with a Spanish Squadron of nearly the same strength, under the command of the admirals Reggio and Spinolo. Both fleets immediately drew up in a line of battle. The engagement began about two in the afternoon, and continued with intervals till eight in the evening, when the enemy made away to the Havannah with the loss of two ships; one of which, the Conquestadore, struck to the British admiral, and the other, named the Africa, was, two days after, set on fire by her own commander, that she might not fall into the hands of the English.

Mr. Knowles accused some of his captains of misbehaviour, and they, in turn, recriminated on him. On their return to England, their conduct was subjected to the in-

## 100 *The History of* ENGLAND.

quity of a court martial. Those who adhered to the admiral, and those whom he impeached, were inflamed against each other with the most implacable resentment. The admiral received a gentle reprimand for not beginning the action sooner, and for neglecting to shift his flag on board of another ship, when he found his own disabled. Two of his captains were likewise censured: but captain Holmes, of the Lennox, who had behaved with remarkable courage, was honourably acquitted.

The animosities of the officers did not end with the court-martial. Captain Innes and captain Clarke met by appointment in Hyde-Park with pistols: the former was shot dead upon the spot; the latter was tried, and condemned for murder: but as it appeared that he had only accepted the challenge, he was indulged with his majesty's pardon.

In order to counterballance the great superiority, which the French possessed upon the continent, his Britannic majesty formed a resolution of engaging a body of Russians in his service. This measure had been some time in agitation; and the Czarina, who had no reason to be satisfied with the court of Versailles, seemed extremely well disposed to agree to such an expedient. The  
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negociation, however, was attended with considerable difficulties. The number of troops proposed was thirty thousand; and her Russian majesty could not undertake to put so large a body of forces in motion, without an immediate remittance from England of one hundred thousand pounds, and an annual subsidy of three times that sum. These demands being at last granted, and the Dutch engaging to bear one fourth of the expence, the troops were immediately assembled, and ordered to begin their march.

So close connection had now been established between Great Britain and the States general, that the latter were very willing to co-operate heartily with the former in prosecuting the war, provided they could depend upon the stability of the English councils; but they seemed to entertain some doubt, whether the ministry could procure another parliament equally liberal and complaisant with the present. In order to remove this scruple, his majesty embraced the wise and patriotic resolution of dissolving the parliament, and calling a new one; and thereby shewing the world, that he was not afraid to throw himself on the affections of his subjects.

With this view he made a speech to both houses, in which he observed, that the invasion of the territories of the States General had had an effect very different from what their enemies expected : that the voluntary and speedy succour, which he had sent upon that occasion, had been received with the utmost joy, and had been of great use ; and that the States, encouraged by that assistance, had not only resolved to make a great augmentation of their forces, but had likewise taken such steps, as might convince the enemy, that they were fully determined to support their own independency, and to promote the interest of the common cause : that he had the particular satisfaction to acquaint his parliament, that the union between Great-Britain and the republic, so necessary for both nations, was never more cordial, nor better established, than it was at present : that as the continuance of this parliament would necessarily determine in a short time, and as nothing would give so much weight to the British measures abroad, in the present conjuncture, as to shew the dependance he had on the affections of his people, he had judged it expedient speedily to call a new parliament : that, nevertheless, he should think himself inexcusable, if he parted with this, without

out publicly returning them his thanks for the many eminent instances they had given of their inviolable fidelity and attachment to his person and government, and of their unshaken adherence to the true interests of their country, and the Protestant succession in his family: that, by the Divine blessing and their assistance, he had been enabled to crush and defeat the most audacious attempts that ever had been made to overturn the present establishment; and, at the same time, to furnish such support to the ancient and natural allies of England, as had already disappointed some of the dangerous and ambitious views, which the enemy entertained at the beginning of the war: that such extraordinary merit, as it should always be remembered with gratitude by him, so must it endear the memory of this parliament to posterity: that, encouraged by these demonstrations of the loyalty and affection of his faithful subjects, he did, with the utmost satisfaction, repose himself upon them; and he did not in the least doubt of receiving new proofs of the same disposition in the choice of their representatives: that he had nothing so much at heart as the preserving the civil and religious rights of his people, and maintaining the true greatness of this nation: that from  
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these principles he would never deviate, and in these principles every true Briton would concur with him : that he hoped this would appear by their conduct in the present conjuncture ; he hoped no false arts or misrepresentations would take place to interrupt, or weaken that harmony between him and his people, which had been, and ever would be, productive of such happy effects. In consequence of this declaration, the parliament was dissolved, and writs were issued for summoning a new one.

Among the laws passed in this session, was an act abolishing the heritable jurisdictions, and taking away the tenor of wardholdings in Scotland ; which, being a species of slavery, were deemed an inconsistency in a free government, invested the superiors with a dangerous power over their dependents, and were reckoned one of the principal sources of those rebellions that had broke out since the revolution.

All the belligerent powers were, by this time, heartily tired of a war, which had consumed such immense quantities of treasure, occasioned the loss of so great a number of lives, procured no solid advantage to any of the parties, and in the events of which all of them had, in their turns, been miserably disappointed. The French king,  
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notwithstanding the progress of his arms on the continent, found himself involved in inextricable difficulties. His parliaments and trading companies were daily teasing him with remonstrances upon the dismal effects of his ambition.

They represented to him, that all the conquests, which his armies had made, served only to bring ruin to his people, and desolation to his country. In many places, hands were wanting to till the ground, and, in others, all the profit, arising from tillage, was not sufficient to defray the taxes, which industry was obliged to pay to extortion. In some of the principal towns, the people rose in tumults against the magistrates and officers of the revenue; and the whole country was filled with clamour and dissatisfaction,

The prince of Orange, though a warm friend to the common cause, to which, in fact, he owed his elevation, yet had many strong and weighty reasons to wish for peace. The unsettled state of his family affairs, the powerful opposition he encountered in Holland, and the difficulty he found in raising money, made him naturally long for an opportunity of establishing his authority upon a solid foundation.

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106 *The History of ENGLAND.*

The king of Spain, too, was so deeply affected with the losses he had sustained by sea and in Italy, that he earnestly desired to see a cessation of hostilities. The sentiments of the British ministry were no less pacific. They perceived they had nothing to hope from a continuance of the war, as the French and Spanish marine was now almost entirely destroyed; and they were sensible, that they could not carry it on another campaign without loading the people with new impositions.

The king of France had, immediately after the battle of Val, in a personal conversation with Sir John Ligonier, expressed his desire of a pacification; and afterwards his minister in Holland presented a declaration on the same subject to the deputies of the States-general. He now thought proper to make farther advances towards an accommodation both at the Hague and at London; and the contending powers agreed to another congress, which was actually opened in March at Aix-la Chapelle, where the earl of Sandwich and Sir Thomas Robinson assisted as Plenipotentiaries from the king of Great Britain.

Mean while the new elections went every where in favour of the court, and were conducted with uncommon unanimity. The  
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landed interest appeared to be as strong as ever in the counties; but in many of the boroughs an alteration was perceived. The numerous prizes taken from the enemy, and the great commercial advantages acquired to Britain in the course of the war, had brought such a quantity of specie into the hands of the marine and mercantile gentlemen, that many of them were encouraged to aspire to seats in parliament, and were enabled to support their applications with a greater profusion of money, than had ever been observed on any former occasion.

The minister was extremely uneasy at the torrent of corruption, which every where prevailed, and which, nevertheless, he found himself unable to stem. He declared, however, that all parties were indifferent to him, provided they were in the interest of their country; and if ever he exerted himself in favour of any one, it was only in behalf of those, whom he personally esteemed, and who, he thought, would agree with him in the wise and moderate system he had adopted.

The Jacobites endeavoured, in some places, to revive the influence, that had operated so powerfully in the latter part of Walpole's administration; but the spirit of disaffection was now so languid, that their efforts served only to expose the party to the  
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ridicule of the public. Even the independent electors of Westminster, as they affected to call themselves, could not, with all their industry, procure above one thirtieth part of the voters.

The new parliament met on the tenth day of November, when his majesty, in his speech to both houses, observed, that he had taken no part in the present war, except by the advice of his parliament: that though the success of his arms in the Low-countries had not been answerable to the preparations he had made, yet, that disappointment had been, in some measure, compensated, by the advantages he had gained by sea, and which had produced an alteration in the Dutch government extremely beneficial to the common cause: that overtures for a general pacification had lately been made to him on the part of France; and though some of the terms proposed could not be approved, yet, as he had no other aim than a safe and honourable peace, he had shewn the utmost inclination to promote an accommodation; and a congress for this purpose would speedily be opened at Aix-la-Chapelle, whither the ministers of the several powers would forthwith repair: that he hoped all the powers concerned would bring with them the same dispositions, which he  
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had, to effectuate this great work, on just and reasonable terms : that matters being in this situation, he was confident they would agree with him in his opinion, that it was necessary to be vigilant and attentive to every event ; and that there could be no reason to expect a good peace, but by being timely prepared, to carry on a vigorous and effectual war : that he therefore relied on their hearty and powerful support, to enable him to open the campaign early in the spring, in case the obstinacy of his enemies, in rejecting fair and equitable conditions, should render such a step indispensably requisite : that, for this purpose, he was now actually concerting the necessary measures with his allies, to whose interest he was determined inviolably to adhere : that they ought to be in readiness, in case the negotiations should fail of the desired effect, to convince their enemies, how much they were mistaken, if they vainly imagined, that Great-Britain and her allies would submit to receive the law from any power whatsoever ; and to demonstrate to the world, that they would decline no difficulty or danger for the maintenance of the common liberty, and the preservation of their own independence and essential interests.

## 110 *The History of ENGLAND.*

This speech was answered by warm and affectionate addresses from both houses. The commons, in particular, said, that, if, contrary to their wishes and expectations, the enemies of Great-Britain should, by insisting on unreasonable and inadmissible terms, make the continuance of the war unavoidable, they were firmly determined to support his majesty to the utmost of their power; and, in order to convince the enemy of this their steadfast resolution, they would immediately grant such supplies, as might, in conjunction with his majesty's allies, enable him to carry on the war with vigour, maintain the honour and dignity of the crown of Great-Britain, and support the interest of the common cause of Christendom.

Never parliament made good their professions with greater punctuality than the present. They voted forty thousand seamen, forty-nine thousand land forces, besides eleven thousand nine hundred marines; the subsidies to the queen of Hungary, the Czarina, the king of Sardinia, the electors of Mentz and Bavaria, the prince of Hesse, and the duke of Wolsenbattle: the sum of two hundred thirty-five thousand, seven hundred and forty-nine pounds was granted to the provinces of New-England, to reimburse them for the expence of reducing  
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Cape-Breton; five hundred thousand pounds were given to his majesty for the vigorous prosecution of the war; and about one hundred and fifty two thousand pounds to the Scottish claimants, in lieu of their jurisdiction.

The supplies for the ensuing year amounted to upwards of eight millions and a half, of which the greater part was raised on a loan by subscription, chargeable on a new subsidy of poundage, exacted from all merchandize imported into Great-Britain.

In this session a bill was brought in for a general naturalization of foreign Protestants. Many shrewd arguments were advanced in favour of this measure, which would tend, it was said, to supply the great waste of people, which the war had occasioned, and to introduce new manufactures into the kingdom, as many industrious individuals in foreign parts would be thereby encouraged to settle in England.

Nevertheless, a petition was presented against it by the sheriffs of London, who affirmed, that it would occasion a decrease, if not a total loss of the duties of package, scavage, portage, and balliage of the goods of foreign merchants: that it was more likely to encrease the poverty, than to add to the wealth of the nation; for that neither

## 112 *The History of* ENGLAND.

rich nor industrious foreigners needed such inducement; as the latter never wanted encouragement, nor the former the very privilege in question, when they applied for it to parliament: that a like law had been attempted in the reign of king William, but had been rejected on such national considerations, as, it was presumed, would never escape the attention, nor lose the regard of the house: that a law having been actually passed, for that purpose, in the reign of queen Anne, it was found so detrimental to the public interest, that it was soon afterwards repealed, and not without some severe reflections on the conduct of those, who had promoted it: that, as a naturalization could not convey to foreigners a true knowledge of our happy constitution in church and state, or give them such a zeal and affection for it, as might be requisite for maintaining and defending it; and as those who had grown up under arbitrary government might be fittest to answer arbitrary purposes, too much caution could not be used in a matter of so great importance: and therefore it was hoped, that the house would not think proper to pass a bill which was liable to such insuperable objections.

This petition was strongly supported by many of the members; and the minister,

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apprehending that the bill, if passed, might hurt his interest in the city, where at present it was very high, consented that the project should be entirely laid aside.

A bill, however, was passed without any opposition, prohibiting the practice of insuring French and Spanish ships at London; and another encouraging the manufacture of indigo in the British plantations: an article for which Great-Britain used to pay two two hundred thousand pounds yearly, to the subjects of France.

The session was closed on the thirteenth day of May, when the king informed both houses, that the preliminaries of a general peace were actually signed at Aix-la-Chapelle by the ministers of Great Britain, France, and the United-Provinces; and that the basis of this accommodation, was a general restitution of the conquests, which had been made during the war. Immediately after the prorogation of parliament, his majesty set out for his German dominions, after having appointed a regency to govern the kingdom in his absence.

The allies had resolved to open the campaign in the Netherlands with an army of one hundred and ninety thousand men, in order to compel the French to abandon the barrier, which they had conquered; but

# 114 *The History of ENGLAND.*

the dilatory conduct of the Dutch and the Austrians prevented the execution of this measure.

The people of Holland were so highly incensed at the behaviour of their rulers, that they rose in tumults in all the capital cities. They plundered the farmers of the revenue, abolished the taxes, and insulted the magistrates; so that the States-General, seeing their country on the brink of ruin, authorized the prince of Orange to make such regulations, as he should judge convenient. They constituted him hereditary stadtholder and captain general of Dutch Brabant, Flanders, and the upper quarter of Guelderland; and the East-India company chose him director and governour general of their commerce and settlements in the Indies. Thus invested with such an extensive authority, he exerted himself with equal diligence and success in appeasing the populace, and in augmenting and assembling the troops of the republic.

The confederates knew, that the French intended to besiege Maeltricht; and the Austrian general Bathiani, proposed, that an army should be formed early in the spring, in order to secure that important fortress: but as he could not persuade the States-general to agree

agree to his proposal, the enemy had leisure to carry their design into execution.

In March the duke of Cumberland assembled the allied forces in the neighbourhood of Breda; but, notwithstanding the magnificent promises of the court of Vienna and the United Provinces, they did not amount to above one hundred and ten thousand men. The French, therefore, being so greatly superior in number, were enabled to invest Maestricht without opposition; and they accordingly opened the trenches on the third day of April.

The garrison consisted of Imperial and Dutch troops under the conduct of the baron D'Aylva, who defended the place with great spirit and resolution. He annoyed the besiegers in repeated sallies; but they were determined to overcome all oppositions and carried on their approaches with indefatigable perseverance. They attacked the covered way, in which they actually made a lodgement, after an obstinate dispute, which cost them two thousand men; but next day, they were obliged to abandon it by the bravery of the garrison.

These hostilities were suddenly interrupted, by the signing of the preliminary articles at Aix-la-Chapelle. The plenipotentiaries agreed, that, for the glory of his  
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## 116 *The History of ENGLAND.*

Christian majesty's arms, the town of Maestricht should be surrendered to his general, on condition that it should be restored with all the magazines and artillery. He accordingly entered the place on the third day of May, when the garrison marched out with all the honours of war; and a suspension of arms immediately ensued.

By this time, the Russian auxiliaries, to the number of thirty-seven thousand, under the command of prince Repnin, had arrived in Moravia, where, on the twentieth day of May, they were reviewed by their Imperial majesties. Then they proceeded to the confines of Franconia, where they were ordered to halt, after having marched seven hundred miles from the beginning of the year. The French king declared, that, should they advance further, he would destroy the fortifications of Maestricht and Bergen op-Zoom.

This affair was referred to the plenipotentiaries, who, on the second day of August, signed a convention, importing, that the Russian troops should march back to their own country; and that the French king should disband an equal number of his forces. The season being far advanced, the Russians were provided with winter quarters in Bohemia and Moravia, where  
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they remained till the spring, when they returned into Livonia.

In the mean time, thirty seven thousand French troops were re-called from Flanders into Picardy ; and the two armies continued inactive till the conclusion of the definitive treaty. The suspension of arms was proclaimed at London, and in the capitals of all the contracting powers : orders were sent to the respective admirals in the different parts of the world, to abstain from hostilities ; and a communication of trade and commerce was opened between the nations, which had been at variance.

The plenipotentiaries still continued at Aix-la-Chapelle, adjusting all the articles of the definitive treaty, which was at length concluded on the seventh day of October. It was founded on former treaties, which were now expressly confirmed from that of Westphalia to the last concluded at London and Vienna.

The contracting parties agreed, that all prisoners on each side should be mutually released without ransom, and all conquests restored : that the dutchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla, should be ceded as a settlement to the Infant Don Philip, and the heirs male of his body ; but, in case of his ascending the throne of Spain, or of the

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two Sicilies, or his dying without male issue, that they should revert to the house of Austria: that the king of Great Britain should, immediately after the ratification of this treaty, send two persons of rank and distinction, to reside in France, as hostages, until restitution should be made of Cape-Breton, and all the other conquests which his Britannic majesty should have achieved in the East or West Indies, before or after the preliminaries were signed: that the Assiento Contract, with the article of the annual ship, should be confirmed for four years, during which the enjoyment of that privilege had been suspended since the commencement of the present war: that Dunkirk should remain fortified, on the land-side, and towards the sea continue on the footing of former treaties. All the contracting powers become guarantees to the king of Prussia for the dutchy of Silesia and the county of Glatz, as he at present possessed them; and they likewise engaged to maintain the empress queen of Hungary and Bohemia in the possession of her hereditary dominions, according to the Pragmatic Sanction. The other articles regarded the forms and times fixed for the mutual restitutions, as well as for the termination of hostilities in different parts of the world.

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Thus was concluded, after an immense expence of blood and treasure, a war, in which Great Britain and France, the principal parties concerned, had gained nothing but the experience of each others strength and resources. France perceived, that the riches and force of Great Britain were much greater than he had imagined; and Great Britain grew sensible, that the power of France, acting in the Low Countries and in his own neighbourhood, was almost irresistible.

The continual disputes between England and Spain, to which the war had been originally owing, were mentioned in the treaty only for the sake of form; while each nation, though mutually weakened, found itself exactly in the same situation, in which it had been at the commencement of hostilities. The sensible part of the people in England began now to speak with reverence of the earl of Orford's administration, and those, who had been his most inveterate enemies, seemed at a loss to account for the reasons, for which the war had been begun.

The queen of Spain had, in a most surprising manner, obtained, after an unprosperous campaign, a settlement for one of her sons in Italy; while the other, the king of Naples, had observed, during the  
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greatest part of the war, a strict neutrality, for which he was glad to have so plausible a pretext, as the dread of a British squadron.

The spirit of the Genoese, which had so greatly influenced the fate of Europe, was admired in England, and encouraged in France, the last of which two kingdoms had, upon the death of the duke of Boufflers, sent the duke of Richlieu, to command the forces of that republic, at the very time that the implacable queen of Hungary was upon the point of reducing them once more to subjection : but, notwithstanding all the reinforcement of men and money, that was furnished them by France, they must have been entirely ruined, had it not been for the conclusion of the peace.

The empress queen had, by her own obstinacy, hazarded all, and lost much. She had, from the very commencement of the war, pursued an interest separate from that of Great Britain, who had so generously saved and supported her ; and she was even, at times, ungrateful enough, to cause her ministers and emissaries in England to appeal from the government to the people, whose passions, during her distress, and indeed during the whole war, were wonderfully heated in her favour.

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The king of Sardinia had, by his invincible fortitude and firmness, extricated himself out of those difficulties, in which he had been at different times involved; but, upon the whole, he was no gainer either by the war or the peace. The connections, which his minister, Ossorio, who was called a second Gondamar, had formed in the English cabinet, were regarded as dangerous to the true interest of Great Britain, and as calculated only to prolong a war, from which she had nothing to expect, and which, whether successful or unsuccessful, must plunge her into ruinous expences.

It was thought, and perhaps with good reason, that had he, agreeable to the treaty of Worms, been put in possession of the town of Final, he must, at one time or other, have become too considerable a maritime power; and that the right maxims of policy dictated, that that port should remain with the Genoese, rather than with him.

The king of Prussia, too, found himself exactly in the same condition, in which he had been at the treaty of Breslau; and that he retained only a precarious and unstable possession of Silesia. The king of Poland, as elector of Saxony, had been once a party in the war; but his measures had been so variable and inconsistent, that nothing cer-

tain could be pronounced with regard to his conduct : though his family connections had been powerfully strengthened since the commencement of hostilities. It was believed, however, that he had involved himself in great incumbrances ; and that he had entered into a secret agreement with the house of Austria, to be indemnified at the expence of his neighbours.

The other princes of the empire were in a like disagreeable situation : they had weakened themselves to no purpose ; they had shewn no steadiness of conduct ; and had acted upon no principle, but what was dictated by a little temporary interest.

The behaviour of the States-General had been, from the beginning of the war, poor and pusillanimous, if not base and treacherous. They had been deterred by the spirit of their own people, from declaring for an absolute neutrality ; and they had been restrained, by the terror of the French arms, from entering heartily into the war. By this irresolute and indetermined conduct, they had expended large sums of money without advantage to themselves or allies : and it may be safely affirmed, that the common cause received more hurt than benefit from their assistance. In a word, no period can produce an instance of a war so wantonly com-

commenced, so expensively prosecuted, and so fruitlessly concluded, as that, of which we have now given the history.

The young pretender had continued at Paris ever since the miscarriage of his attempt upon Scotland. His agents had, during the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, presented a protest in his name, which had been rejected with ignominy; and he himself had been given to understand, that, after the conclusion of the peace, he could not be suffered to reside any longer in the French dominions.

He seemed to receive this intimation with great indifference and some disrespect. When it was repeated to him, he flatly told the duke de Gesvers, that it was not in his master's power, consistently with his engagements, to expel him his dominions; and he actually put the French King to a kind of defiance,

There appears to have been some truth in the young man's allegation; for Lewis, instead of contradicting it, wrote him a soothing letter with his own hand, intreating him to withdraw into another country.

At the same time he procured him a safe asylum in the territory of Friburgh, one of the Swiss cantons; and offered him a handsome pension, upon which he might subsist, Charles, however, lent a deaf ear to all

## 124 *The History of* ENGLAND.

proposals of this nature. He absolutely refused to depart from France; and, even after the arrival of the earl of Sussex, and lord Cathcart, who were sent as the British hostages to Paris, he appeared publickly on all occasions, and affected to be treated in their presence with the distinctions he had assumed.

The two noblemen complaining of his conduct, the French king applied to the old pretender, who sent a very severe, yet affectionate, letter to his son, upbraiding him with his folly, and advising him to comply with the necessity of the times. This expedient had no better effect than the former. Charles continued as obstinate as ever, and appeared in all public places with an air of triumph and exultation.

He even affected the manners of Charles the twelfth of Sweden; and his followers pretended, that, if any force was offered him, he was resolved to defend himself to the last extremity. The common people of Paris seemed to espouse his quarrel; and the government began to be apprehensive of an insurrection in his favour. The French king, therefore, had recourse to more serious measures. A body of guards was ordered under arms; and Charles, while stepping out of his coach into the opera-house,

house, was made prisoner; and being tied with a cord like a common felon; was conducted first to Vincennes, and thence to the frontiers of the kingdom.

This ignominious treatment of one, whom the people of France considered as the lineal descendant of their beloved Henry the fourth, was regarded as a signal sacrifice to the glory of England. Reciprocal compliments passed between the two courts: the earl of Albemarle was appointed ambassador extraordinary to the French king; and the marquis de Mirepoix arrived at London in the same capacity: the resort of the English to France, and of the French to England, was greater than had been observed on any former occasion: and a general opinion prevailed, that the peace between the two nations was established on a solid and lasting foundation.

It would lead us into too minute and circumstantial a detail, to recount all the particulars relating to the recall of the British forces, and the mutual restitution of places; suffice it to say, that every thing was effected with the utmost regularity, and without the intervention of any remarkable incident.

By this time, his Britannic majesty had returned to England; and the parliament

meeting on the twenty-ninth day of November, he made a speech to both houses, importing, that the definitive treaty of peace had been signed by all the parties concerned in the war: that he had made the most effectual provision for securing the rights and interests of his subjects, and for procuring to his allies the best terms and conditions, that the situation of affairs would admit: that he took much satisfaction in being able to tell them, that he had found a good disposition in all the parties engaged in the war to bring this negotiation to a happy conclusion: that from these circumstances, they might promise themselves a long enjoyment of the blessings of a peace, provided they made a right use and improvement of it: that as great a progress had been made in reducing the public expences, as the nature of the case would allow; and he only desired them to grant him such supplies as might be requisite for the current service of the year, for their own security, and for fulfilling such engagements, as had been already contracted, and laid before them: that times of tranquillity were the most proper for lessening the national debt, and strengthening themselves against future events; and he must recommend to them, as the most effectual means

means for these purposes, the improving of the public revenue, and the maintaining the naval force of the kingdom in due strength and vigour: that those brave men, who had distinguished themselves in the service of their country, were certainly proper objects of parliamentary favour and protection; and he hoped they would deem it their duty, as well as interest, to convert their most serious attention towards the advancing of commerce and the cultivating the arts of peace.

This speech was answered by loyal and affectionate addresses from both houses; though that of the lower was not carried without a violent opposition. The prince of Wales's servants, imagining, that they were not rewarded according to their merit, had lately made it a maxim to thwart all the measures of the court.

They had revived some obsolete claims to which they pretended his royal highness was intitled: they had persuaded him to hold a stannery court; or, as they affected to call it, a parliament: and they began to talk of certain powers, which the prince, they said, had a right to enjoy, and which, had he actually exercised them, would have rendered the elections of members for  
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Cornwall, entirely dependent on his pleasure.

They now exclaimed against the folly of the ministry, in concluding a peace before the arrival of the Russian auxiliaries: and they threatened to make a strict inquiry into the conduct of those, who had agreed to conditions so little adequate to the successes of the war. The motion, however, was so strongly supported by Mr. Pelham and Mr. Murray the solicitor-general, that the party did not think proper to hazard a division.

Notwithstanding the re-establishment of peace, and the reduction, that had been made, as well in the land as in the sea forces, it was found impossible, at least, for some time, to diminish proportionably the public expences. When the commons proceeded to consider the supply, they examined the sums that would be absolutely necessary for making good the engagements of the parliament to his majesty, and the services performed in the prosecution of the war; discharging debts; supplying deficiencies; and providing for the current service of the year.

Under the first head it appeared, that above forty-four thousand pounds were due to the elector of Bavaria; upwards of thirty-

ty-thousand to the duke of Brunswick ; about the same sum to the landgrave of Hesse ; and between eight and nine thousand to the elector of Mentz : the extraordinary expence of the office of ordnance for the land-service, undischarged, was stated at forty three thousand pounds ; about one hundred and twelve thousand were owing to the forces in Cape-Breton and the East-Indies : above four hundred and eighteen thousand were due for the extraordinary expences of the troops in Flanders, North-Britain, and America: an arrear of one hundred thousand was claimed by the queen of Hungary ; and ten thousand were demanded by the city of Glasgow to reimburse them for the money extorted from them by the rebels : so that the whole sum under this head amounted to seven hundred and ninety six thousand, five hundred and thirteen pounds, three shillings and seven pence.

The second head of supply included the discharge of the navy, victualling, and transport bills, computed at three millions sterling ; the debt of the office of ordnance for the sea-service, reckoned at two hundred and thirty-thousand pounds ; and the wages due to seamen, and other debts of the navy, estimated at one million ; the whole

### 130 *The History of ENGLAND.*

whole amounting to four millions, two hundred and thirty-three thousand, three hundred and eighty-two pounds, five shillings and one halfpenny.

The third head of supplies comprehended the deficiencies, amounting to six hundred and eighty-seven thousand, two hundred and nineteen pounds, eight shillings and four pence half penny. And the current service of the year required two millions, three hundred and seventy-four thousand, three hundred and thirty three pounds, fifteen shillings and two pence.

These heads of supply, especially the three first, we have thought proper to give at the greater length, in order to shew the incredible expence with which the prosecution of the war was attended, and, of consequence, the necessity of bringing it to a speedy end. This necessity was the more pressing, as the allies of Great-Britain were, every day, growing less capable to support their proportionable share of the expence. The Dutch, during the whole course of the war, had not fitted out above six ships; and these too but indifferently manned.

Though Mr. Pelham had often mentioned and bewailed this inconvenience, the minority treated him with great severity, and represented him as the author of all  
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the debts and incumbrances that have now been specified ; but this charge was sufficiently refuted by Mr. Pitt and Mr. Murray, two of the best speakers in the house.

Two hundred and eighty-five thousand, eight hundred and seventy-eight pounds were demanded for the ordinary of the navy, including half-pay to the sea-officers. This was reckoned an unreasonable sum for such a branch of service ; and, accordingly, it met with a violent opposition. The arguments, however, which were urged against it, and which were chiefly drawn from former times, were altogether inapplicable to the present case : the navy of Great Britain had never been so numerous or so powerful as it was at that juncture ; nor, upon a fair comparison, was the sum required greater than what had been granted in former periods for the same purpose.

The arrears claimed by the queen of Hungary, was productive of a longer and a warmer debate. The minority seemed, for some time, to have the better of the argument ; but the ministry insisted on the mighty sacrifices, which that princess had made for the sake of peace, and the great deference she had shewn to the British nation ; and upon a division her demand was granted by a considerable majority of voices.

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The same was the fate of the demand made by the city of Glasgow. It was urged on the one hand, that that city had no particular claim to favour preferable to other places in the kingdom : that if every town, which had suffered from the rebels, were to bring in a bill of their damages, the expence would be immense, and the discussion endless : that to comply, therefore, with the demand of the city of Glasgow would create a dangerous precedent, as it might be followed by applications from other places, and even from private gentlemen, who had an equal right to be indemnified : and that, in any event, if Glasgow was really an object of parliamentary favour, it ought to be reimbursed out of the forfeited estates in Scotland.

It was alledged on the other hand, that the merits of Glasgow were peculiar to itself : that no city in the king's dominions, ever since the time of the Revolution, had distinguished itself with equal zeal and success in the cause of liberty : that even, when unprotected by the royal forces, and exposed to the fury and resentment of the rebels, it had raised two regiments for the service of the government ; a thing, that could not be said of any other place in the united kingdoms. The minority consci-

ous of their own weakness, did not think proper to call for the question, and the demand was granted without a division.

The whole supply for this year amounted nearly to eight millions sterling; an immense sum; but against which none exclaimed with greater vehemence than the ministry, who, nevertheless, shewed, that it was absolutely necessary for the public service,

This point being settled, the commons proceeded to matters of another nature. A bill was prepared for amending, explaining, and reducing into one act, the laws relating to his majesty's navy. One intention of the bill was to render half pay officers subject to martial law in the same manner as if they were upon full pay. The gentlemen of the navy immediately took the alarm. A petition was presented against this clause, and was signed by no less than three admirals and sixty-four captains, who were not members of the house. Many of these repaired to the Admiralty and threatened to throw up their commissions, should the clause pass into a law. It was therefore dropt by the consent and even at the desire of the ministry.

Objections were likewise made to other clauses of the bill, particularly to that which obliged the members of a court-

# 134 *The History of* ENGLAND.

martial to take an oath not to disclose, at any time, or upon any account, the opinions or transactions of such court. It was said, that this oath deprived parliaments of that original and fundamental power of impeaching offenders, however great, or of enquiring into offences, however circumstanced : that it was possible for the members of a court-martial, from private or particular considerations, to commit the most flagrant injustice ; and that it was impossible for parliaments to apply redress because it was impossible to discover the facts which this oath absolutely and eternally sealed up : that the innocent, who might vote against an unjust sentence of a court-martial, was, by this means, confounded with the guilty, and could not, without the crime of perjury, reveal the real matter of fact to the world : that this oath was inconsistent with the common and statute laws of the kingdom, in as much as it precluded them in cases where they might have a right to interfere ; nor could an inquest proceed upon the body of a member of a court-martial suddenly killed, upon some dispute arising in the court, since this oath prevented the inquest from receiving any information with regard to the circumstances of the quarrel, so as to direct them to find the

the murder accidental, in self defence, or wilful.

For these reasons an amendment was proposed, empowering a member of a court-martial to reveal, if required, by either house of parliament, the opinions of such court, in all cases, in which the courts of justice, as the law then stood, had a right to interfere. But this amendment, however plausible, was flatly rejected. It was thought, and with some shew of reason, that the stronger the oath of secrecy, the greater would be the independency of subordinate officers voting in a court-martial, contrary, perhaps, to the sentiments of their superiors. The question being at last put, was carried in the affirmative by a considerable majority.

The mutiny-bill gave occasion to a much longer, and more obstinate debate. The members imagined, at its first passing, that it was no more than a matter of form; but upon examining it more maturely, they found, that several innovations had been lately introduced, which were liable to great objections. An amendment, therefore, was proposed by the minority, for forming courts-martial of such officers only, as should then be on duty in their respective regiments,

and whose turn it should happen to be at the time of the appointment of such courts.

This amendment was strongly recommended, as tending to make courts martial more equitable, and to bring them to a nearer conformity with juries in civil cases. It was thought, however, to intrench too much on the power and authority of commanders in chief, and therefore was rejected by a plurality of voices.

The minority then moved, that it should not be lawful for any commander in chief, or commanding officer, to require any court martial, or for any court-martial so required, to reverse or correct, on any pretence whatsoever, a legal sentence according to this act, and to the articles of war, once given by such court-martial.

In support of this motion it was urged, that it was contrary to natural equity to subject any man to two trials for one and the same fact, which must be the case, if revivals of sentences of courts-martial should take place, so as to inflict a severer punishment. To this it was answered, that, even in civil cases, a judge had been known to desire the jury to re-consider their verdict; and that they had brought in one more severe than what they had formerly given: that, besides, as no abuses of that kind were  
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pretended to be adduced, such a clause would have the appearance of throwing a reflexion on the heads of the army. It was therefore rejected by a majority of eighty-eight voices.

In this bill there was a new clause, importing, that, as it might be otherwise doubted, whether the officers and persons employed in the trains of artillery, or the reduced officers of his majesty's land forces or marines on the British or Irish establishment on half-pay, were within the intent and meaning of this act, for punishing officers and soldiers, who should mutiny or desert his majesty's service, and for punishing false musters, and for payment of quarters; it was hereby enacted, that the officers or persons employed, or that should be employed, in the several trains of artillery, or the reduced officers of his majesty's land forces or marines, on the British and Irish establishment of half-pay should be, at all times, subject to all the penalties and punishments mentioned in this act and should, in all respects whatsoever, be held to be within the intent and meaning of it, during the time of its continuance.

Great objections were made to this clause, which was represented as highly dangerous to the constitution, and as tending to in-

crease the number of officers depending on the crown, and subject to military law. It was judged, however, both wise and reasonable to subject all officers to military law, because it subjected them to discipline ; and, besides, it appeared, that officers upon half-pay had always been deemed, though not in actual service, yet subject to the authority of martial law.

“ What danger,” said Mr. P—, who was then pay-master-general, “ can happen  
 “ by obliging a half-pay officer to continue  
 “ upon the military establishment? It is  
 “ admitted on all hands, that, while he is  
 “ in pay, he must employ his time, his  
 “ study, and even his sword, as his superi-  
 “ ors shall direct. There may possibly be  
 “ danger in this ; but it never can happen  
 “ till the direction becomes wicked, nor  
 “ prevented but by the virtue of the army.  
 “ It is to that virtue we, even at this  
 “ time, trust, small as our army is ; it is to  
 “ that virtue we must have trusted, had this  
 “ bill been modelled as its warmest oppo-  
 “ sers could have wished ; and without this  
 “ virtue, should the lords, the commons,  
 “ and the people of England, intrench  
 “ themselves behind parchment up to the  
 “ teeth, the sword will find a passage to the  
 “ vitals of the constitution.” The question  
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being put, was carried in the affirmative by a great majority.

The next object that engaged the attention of the commons, was a bill for extending and improving the trade to the coast of Africa. The company, in whose hands this trade was placed, had long been in a declining state. They had often received the bounty of parliament, to enable them to support their forts and settlements, without which the trade must have been wholly ruined.

This parliamentary encouragement had given them great credit, and procured them the loan of large sums of money from many rich individuals; but their affairs falling every day into greater confusion, their sole property was, at last, reduced to the few forts and settlements, which they possessed upon the coast.

Several petitions were presented to parliament on this subject; one, in particular, importing, that the best security and protection of the African trade, depended upon his majesty's ships of war; and though forts and settlements were thought necessary to prevent the rivals of Great-Britain from setting up the claim of an extensive trade,  
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yet that these would prove a nuisance in the hands of any joint company, whose interest ever had been, and ever would be incompatible with that of the separate and open trader. They therefore prayed, that the forts and settlements upon the African coasts might be taken into his majesty's immediate possession, and supported by the public for the general good of the British trade; or, if that should be found inconvenient, that the care of them might be committed to the merchants trading to that coast, in such manner as to the house should seem meet, but without, however, giving them power to acquire any right or advantage in that trade, except what should be in common with all his majesty's subjects.

The commons having examined the matter with great care and accuracy, resolved, that the trade to Africa ought always to remain free and open to all his majesty's subjects: that it ought never to be taxed with any duties whatsoever, for the support and maintenance of any forts or settlements there: that British forts and settlements on that coast were necessary to be maintained as marks of the possession of Great Britain, and might, under proper management, be rendered useful to the traders in general: that, in order to carry on the trade,

trade, in as beneficial a manner, as possible to these kingdoms, all his majesty's subjects whatsoever trading to Africa, should be united, under certain regulations, into an open company, without any joint stock or power to trade as a corporation: and that the forts and settlements upon that coast, should be put under proper management and direction.

They likewise resolved to grant a compensation to the company, as soon as they should be divested of their charter, lands, forts, and other effects; but that that compensation should be applied towards satisfying their creditors. Upon these resolutions a bill was prepared and passed by the commons; and, though it was stopped in the upper house till the end of the session, it was yet carried in the course of the succeeding, and finally confirmed by the royal sanction\*.

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\* About this time, an English trader, having decoyed the son of a considerable African prince, had sold him and his companion (neither of them above eighteen years of age) to a British planter. The ministry were no sooner informed of this incident, than they ordered the ransom to be paid, and the young Moors to be brought to England; where, having given them

Several other bills were introduced in the course of this session; but as none of them were attended with any remarkable debate, nor brought to maturity till next year, they will come to be more properly explained among the transactions of that period. The disputes in the upper house were much the same with those in the lower. On the thirteenth day of June, his majesty closed the session with a speech, in which he told the parliament, that the terms and conditions of the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle had been carried into execution by the several contracting powers with great punctuality and good faith, so far as the time and the distance of place would admit: that he hoped, at their next meeting, they would be able to perfect what they had now begun, for advancing the trade and navigation of the kingdom, particularly by putting the naval force upon a respectable footing. He then expressed his satisfaction at seeing the public credit in so flourishing a condition at the end of an expen-

them a proper education, and clothed and equipped them suitably to their rank, they sent them back to their native country; a favour, it is said, of which the prince ever after retained a most grateful remembrance.

penfive, though necessary war; and, after returning them thanks for the liberal supplies they had granted him, he at last dismissed them.

The attention of the public was, at this time, engaged by an incident of a very singular nature. Some young Oxonians, of more wit than judgement, and of more insolence and presumption than either of these qualities, had been lately guilty of several treasonable practices, particularly of drinking the pretender's health. The vice-chancellor, and heads of houses, with the proctors of the university, published a declaration, expressing their utter abhorrence and detestation of such factious and seditious practices, and likewise their firm and determined resolution to punish, according to the utmost severity and rigour of the statutes, all persons, of what state or quality soever, who should be duly convicted of such offences.

Nevertheless, as no signal punishment had been inflicted on the delinquents, whose behaviour had been attended with very aggravating circumstances, the government ordered three of them to be taken into custody; two of whom, Dawes and Whitmore, were tried in the court of King's-Bench, and being found guilty on the clear-  
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## 144 *The History of* ENGLAND.

est evidence, were sentenced to walk through the courts of Westminster with a paper on their foreheads denoting their crimes, to pay a fine of five nobles each, to be imprisoned for two years, and to find security for their good behaviour during seven years more.

The disbanding the army, as might naturally be expected, had filled the nation with numbers of dissolute and disorderly persons, who preyed upon the substance and endangered the lives of their fellow subjects. In order to remedy this growing evil, the earl of Halifax, first lord of trade and plantations, projected a scheme for establishing a civil government in Nova Scotia, by granting lands to such officers and private men, as should be willing to settle in that part of the world.

A plan for this purpose was immediately concerted and laid before his majesty, who was pleased to honour it with his royal approbation; and, by his orders, the commissioners of trade offered to every private soldier or seaman, in fee simple, fifty acres of land, if single; if married, and having families, ten acres more, with an addition proportioned to the encrease of their families: to every officer, under the degree of an ensign in the land service, or under that  
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of a lieutenant in the sea service, eighty acres; to ensigns two hundred acres; to lieutenants three hundred acres; to captains five hundred acres; to all officers above the rank of captains six hundred acres: and to the officers in the navy in the same proportion.

The adventurers and their families were to be transported at the public expence; to be subsisted for twelve months after their arrival; and to be furnished with arms, ammunition, and utensils for clearing the ground. Carpenters, shipwrights, and such other artificers as were necessary for husbandry and building, were to be gratified with the same quantity of land as private soldiers: a civil government was to be established among them as soon as possible, by which they were to enjoy all the privileges, liberties, and immunities of his majesty's other subjects in America; and care was to be taken for their security and protection.

This excellent and patriotic scheme met with the success which it so well deserved. By the beginning of May, no less than three thousand seven hundred and fifty persons and families had engaged themselves to go to Nova Scotia; and as many of them immediately embarked as the number of

transports provided could conveniently contain. The government of this infant colony was bestowed upon colonel Cornwallis, who, on the twenty-second day of June, arrived at Chebueto Harbour with two regiments of foot, which were soon after joined by a company of Rangers from Annapolis.

Immediately after his arrival, the plan of a town was formed, which was denominated Hallifax, in honour of the founder; and with so much diligence did the new colonists proceed, that, by the middle of October, the settlement was in a very flourishing condition, the town was secured with a palisade, and was furnished with no less than three hundred and fifty houses.

The re-establishment of peace was not found to produce, as might naturally have been expected, an entire cordiality among the several courts of Europe. The cessation of hostilities in the field did not put an end to the intrigues of the cabinet. A strong jealousy continued to prevail among the Northern Powers. The Czarina, apprehending, or pretending to apprehend, from the close connexion between France and Sweden, that a scheme had been laid to alter the form of government in the latter kingdom, which she was bound by treaty, and prompted by interest to preserve inviolate,

late, had caused a large body of her troops to march towards Finland, in order to be ready to act on the first warning in the event of the present king's death, which was every day expected.

This conduct of the empress of Russia excited the apprehensions of his Prussian majesty, who kept on foot a most formidable army, the better to protect his own dominion. At the same time he wrote a letter to his Britannic majesty, exclaiming against the behaviour of the Czarina towards Sweden; informing him, that, by a treaty concluded between Prussia, France, and Sweden, both he, and the French king were engaged to support the established succession in Sweden; and earnestly intreating him to co-operate with them in preserving the peace of the North. With this request his Britannic majesty, however little satisfied with the court of Stockholm, was generously pleased to comply.

Upon the recall of the earl of Hyndford from Petersburg, Mr. Gaydikens was sent to supply his place, and was ordered to exert his utmost endeavours in strengthening the connection between England and Russia: but it appeared, in the sequel, that the the Czarina's apprehensions were altogether groundless; and that, whatever might

## 148 *The History of ENGLAND.*

have been the views of the court, the states and senate of Sweden had no intention to alter the form of their constitution.

In the mean time, his Prussian majesty availed himself of the tranquillity, which he happily enjoyed, in cultivating the arts of peace, and particularly in improving his marine. He employed his agents to buy up ships in Sweden and other countries; and he prevailed upon the French to discontinue their treaty of commerce with the Dutch, who loudly complained, that the Swedish and Prussian vessels engrossed all the trade, which they used to carry on between France and the Baltic.

The French king, it is certain, was so desirous of the friendship of his Prussian majesty, that he thought it could not be purchased at too high a rate: he even ordered his great mareschal Saxe to make a tour to Berlin, in order to confirm the alliance between the two nations.

Both of them, at that time, entertained the same views: for, while his Prussian majesty was meditating the establishment of his favourite Asiatic company at Embden, the French ministry were prosecuting, with great vigour, their plan of increasing their marine; and their finances were now in so good a condition; that,

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according to a scheme laid down by monsieur Rouillé, they were to have, in the space of eight years, one hundred and eleven ships of the line, twenty two bomb-ketches, and twenty five fire ships ready to put to sea at the first notice.

The intrigues and negociations of the other courts of Europe were not productive of any event, that could tend, in the least, to the prejudice of England. Spain had lately sent Mr. Wall, as her minister, to London. This gentleman, who was of Irish extraction, soon proved himself to be a most accomplished statesman. Conscious that it was for the interest of Great-Britain and Spain to cultivate a good understanding, he wisely employed his utmost endeavours in strengthening the alliance between the two nations. A definitive treaty of commerce was concluded; and all the prizes that had been taken from the English since the conclusion of the peace of Aix la-Chapelle, were faithfully restored.

The empress queen had been too much exhausted in the course of the war, to be able, at this time, to prosecute her ambitious projects. Her ministers, however, at the court of Russia, were continually exclaiming against the views of Prussia and

Sweden, which they represented as dangerous to the peace of the North, and calculated to procure the re-election of marshal Saxe into the dukedom of Courland. In consequence of these representations, the Czarina and empress queen, who entertained very different sentiments with regard to that dutchy, engaged in a new alliance, one of the chief objects of which was to deprive his Prussian majesty of the province of Silesia.

In the south of Europe, the king of Sardinia, who had no reason to be satisfied with the court of Vienna, entered into a defensive treaty with France and Spain, the king of the Two Sicilies, the duke of Modena, the republic of Genoa, and the duke of Parma, by which he was secured in the quiet enjoyment of all the estates which he at present possessed, or should afterwards acquire; and by which their Catholic and most Christian majesties engaged to furnish an army of thirty thousand men to such of the contracting powers as should want their assistance.

The British parliament meeting on the sixteenth day of November, his majesty, in his speech to both houses, said, that it was with particular pleasure that he now met them, at a time when the re-establishment

ment of a general peace had restored to his people the blessings of quiet and tranquillity : that the good effects resulting from hence were already apparent in the flourishing condition of commerce, and the rise of public credit, which naturally laid the surest foundation of an increase of strength, and of lasting prosperity to his kingdoms : that he had not failed, during the course of this summer, to avail himself of every opportunity to cement and secure the peace ; and it was his firm resolution to do every thing in his power to preserve it inviolable, and religiously to adhere to the engagements he had contracted.

Both houses having presented addresses of thanks, to which little or no opposition was made, the commons proceeded to consider the estimates for the ensuing year. They voted one hundred eighty-three thousand, two hundred and thirty-two pounds, for making good the engagements into which his majesty had entered ; one million, forty-five thousand, five hundred and ninety pounds, towards discharging the national debt ; four hundred sixty three thousand and fifty-two pounds, for supplying deficiencies ; two hundred forty-nine thousand, nine hundred and thirty pounds, for defraying extraordinary expences ; one hundred  
twenty-

twenty-two thousand, two hundred and forty-six pounds, for re-imbursing the inhabitants of North America the money they had expended in making preparations for an expedition against Canada, and for supporting the colony of Nova-Scotia; thirty-six thousand, four hundred and seventy-six pounds, towards maintaining those colonists for the space of a twelvemonth; and two millions, one hundred and ninety-nine thousand, eight hundred and fifty-five pounds for the ensuing year. The whole supply amounted to upwards of four millions. The land forces were fixed at eighteen thousand, eight hundred and fifty-seven men; and the number of marines at fifteen thousand.

The next object that engaged the attention of the commons, was a scheme for reducing the national debt. The utility of this measure was so clearly demonstrated by Mr. Pelham and others, that the house, after a short deliberation, came to the following resolutions, that any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, who then were, or hereafter might be, interested in, or entitled to any part of the national debt redeemable by law, incurred before Michaelmas, 1749, which now carried an interest at the rate of four per cent, and who  
should,

should, on or before the twenty-eighth day of February 1750, subscribe their names, to signify their consent to accept of an interest of three per cent, to commence from the 25th day of December, 1757, subject to the same provisions, notices, and clauses of redemption, to which their interest of four per cent. was now liable, should, in lieu of their present interest, be entitled to, and receive an interest of four per cent, till the 25th day of December 1750, and from and after that term, an interest of three pounds ten shillings per cent, till the said twenty-fifth day of December, 1757; and that no part of such debt, except what was due to the East India company, should be liable to be redeemed till the last-mentioned term: that all executors, administrators, guardians, and trustees, might subscribe, and signify such consent for the several parts of the said debt, for the holding of which their several names were made use of respectively: that all duties, revenues, and incomes, which now stood appropriated to the payment of the said interest of four per cent, should continue and be appropriated to the payment of the respective interest of four per cent, and of three pounds ten shillings per cent, in the same manner as these funds now stood appropriated

154 *The History of* ENGLAND.

ated to the payment of the interest of four per cent ; and that the surplusses of the said funds, after the 25th day of December 1750, should be made part of the sinking fund, and applied in the same manner as the surplusses of the said funds were now applicable : that books should be opened at his majesty's court of exchequer, at the Bank of England, and the South Sea House, for receiving the said subscriptions or consent : that, for the immediate taking of such subscriptions and consent, copies of these resolutions should be forthwith transmitted to the auditor of the receipt of his majesty's exchequer, to the governour and company of the Bank of England, to the united company of merchants trading to the East-Indies, to the governour and company of merchants trading to the South-Sea and other parts of America, and to those concerned in the fisheries ; and should be affixed on the Royal Exchange, and printed in the Gazette.

In the course of this session, the mutiny-act received some considerable alterations. The members of a court-martial were freed from the oath of secrecy, upon their being required, by a court of justice, to give evidence as witnesses in the due course of law ; and the sentence of a court-martial  
was

was declared to be revifable no more than once.

The cowardly behaviour of the Dutch during the late war had contributed greatly to alienate the minds of the English from that people ; and this averfion was productive of an event of the utmoft importance to Great-Britain. This was no other than a fcheme for improving the British fishery.

The fpirit of the nation was ftill farther ftimulated by a petition to parliament, from the inhabitants of Southwold and Lowestoff, who declared, that the Dutch had, for about eight years paff, fished fo near the fhore, that their nets fwept upon the ground, and by that means prevented the inhabitants from fifhing, as a hundred Dutch fifhing veffels had frequently at once been anchoring in their harbour in two or three fathom water ; and that, when the inhabitants complained of this unwarrantable encroachment, the Dutch had threatened to fink their boats, or tear their nets in pieces.

The commons, having perufed this petition, and examined the matter with great care and attention, agreed at laft to the following refolutions ; that the carrying on the British white herring, and cod fisheries, would

## 156 *The History of* ENGLAND.

would be of great advantage to the trade and navigation of these kingdoms ; and that every impediment to such trade ought to be removed with all convenient dispatch ; that, as a further encouragement to all persons to engage in these fisheries, a bounty of thirty shillings per ton should be granted, and paid out of the customs, to all new vessels from twenty to twenty-eight tons burthen, which should be built for that purpose, and actually employed in the fisheries : that, in order to induce adventurers to employ their money in these fisheries, a society should be incorporated, under the name of *The Free British Fishery*, by a charter, though not exclusive, with power to raise a capital, not exceeding five hundred thousand pounds, and that three and a half per cent. should be granted and paid out of the customs to the proprietors for fourteen years, for so much of the capital as should be actually employed in such fisheries.

A bill was prepared upon these resolutions ; and after undergoing some slight alterations, passed through both houses, and received the royal assent. The affairs of the society were committed to the management of a council consisting of thirty members. The prince of Wales was chosen governour,  
Slingby

Slinby' Bethel, president, and Stephen Theodore Janssen, vice-president.

On the twelfth day of April, his majesty repaired to the house of peers, and after thanking the members for the supplies they had granted, and the attention they had shewn to the good of the public in reducing the national interest, he ordered the parliament to be prorogued.\* Immediately after the prorogation he set out for his German dominions, having first appointed a council to govern the kingdom in his absence.

So great was the harmony, which at this time prevailed between France and England, that each court seemed to vie with the other in expressing their mutual regard and attachment.

The earl of Albemarle, the English ambassador at Paris, having complained of the French kalendar, in which the young pretender was mentioned in a manner that gave offence to the British nation, the ministers ordered the author of the kalendar to be sent to the Bastile, and the work to be suppressed; and a strict charge was likewise given

VOL. XXXIX.

O

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\* Among the laws passed in this session, was an act imposing a duty of four pence per yard upon all Irish sail-cloth brought into Great-Britain; and another encouraging the importation of pig and bar iron from his majesty's colonies in America.

## 156 *The History of* ENGLAND.

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158 *The History of* ENGLAND.

to the licensers of the press. not to suffer any thing to be printed that might afford cause of umbrage to the powers with which France was at peace.

A like respect was shewn by the British court to the marquis de Mirepoix, the French ambassador at London. The motives, however, by which the two nations were actuated, appear to have been very different. The English seem to have been sincere in their professions; but the French complaisance was nothing else than artifice and grimace, and intended only as a cloak to cover the ambitious designs they had formed of engrossing the whole empire of North-America, and extirpating the English from that part of the world.

Intelligence of this had, soon after the conclusion of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, been given to the English ministry by their governours in America; and proper instructions had been dispatched to the colonies to resist all encroachments attempted to be made upon the British territories. The earl of Albemarle too had been ordered to remonstrate, in the most vigorous manner, against such unwarrantable proceedings: but that lord, unhappily, was no politician; and all his remonstrances had so little effect, that the French was rather encouraged than deter-

deterred by his representations. Afraid, however, of rousing, too soon, the jealousy of the English, they consented to refer the dispute to the decision of commissioners, who was to meet at Paris for that purpose.

While this affair remained in suspense, the people of England were thrown into the utmost consternation by two shocks of an earthquake, the former of which happened in February, the latter in March. Though neither of them were violent, yet being strange and uncommon, they filled the whole nation with the most dreadful panics; and these were still further encreased by the ridiculous predictions of a wild enthusiast, who pretended to foretel, that, in a little time, another shock would happen, which would lay all London and Westminster in ruins.

The fanatic happened luckily to be mistaken in his conjecture; but the two shocks which had already been felt, had the good effect to turn the minds of the people from politics to prayers, and to crowd the churches with more numerous audiences than had been seen to frequent them for several years past. The bishop of London wrote pastoral letters on the occasion; and though the fit of devotion soon wore off, the impression it made was so deep, that it wrought a vi-

sible amendment in the morals of the people.

An incident of a nature far less alarming was much more destructive to the lives of individuals. The prison of Newgate having contracted an infection from the number and stench of the persons confined in it, proved fatal, at the trials at the Old-Bailey, to Sir Samuel Pennant, lord mayor; Sir Daniel Lambert, an alderman; Mr. Clark, a baron of the exchequer; Sir Thomas Abney, a judge of the common pleas; to many of the lawyers who attended the sessions; to the greatest part of the jury, and a vast number of the spectators.

The dejection occasioned by these melancholy events was, in some measure, removed by the birth of a son to the prince of Wales, who was born on the thirteenth day of May, and christened by the name of Frederic William.

Little happened in the other nations of Europe, which could be supposed to affect the interest of Great Britain. The king of Portugal dying in the course of this year, was succeeded on the throne by his eldest son Joseph, who wisely pursued the steps of his father in adhering to his engagements with England, upon whose protection he chiefly

chiefly depended for the quiet enjoyment and independency of his crown.

Whilst the king of Great Britain resided in his German dominions, he and the States General concluded a subsidy-treaty with the elector of Bavaria, who engaged to keep on foot a body of six thousand men for their service, but who were not to be employed against the emperor or the empire; and in consideration of this force the elector was to receive the annual sum of forty thousand pounds, one third of which was to be paid by the Dutch.

In the month of October, a messenger arrived in England with a definitive treaty concluded, in consequence of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, between their Britannic and most Catholic majesties. This treaty imported, that the king of Spain should pay to the South-Sea Company, within the space of three months, the sum of one hundred thousand pounds sterling, by way of indemnification, as well for non-execution of the Asiento contract, as to make amends for the four years in which they did not send out their annual ships: that, with regard to the trade and navigation of the English in the ports of the king of Spain's dominions, all the treaties concluded between the two nations for the last eighty-three years,

should be punctually observed and fulfilled: that, of consequence, the British ships, that traded in the ports of his most Catholic majesty, should pay no other duties, for the goods which they either imported or exported, than what they paid in the reign of Charles the second of Spain: that the subjects of Great Britain should, in the places where they come to traffick, pay only the same duties that were laid on the subjects of his Catholic majesty, who promised, that the English should be treated in his dominions, on the same footing as the most favoured nations: and finally, that they should continue to enjoy the privilege of taking in salt at the island of Tortuga, which was possessed by the Spaniards.

The reader will perceive that this treaty was altogether deficient in one material point; namely, in procuring a positive stipulation against the practice of searching British ships on the American seas; the very grievance, which had given occasion to the war. But the ministry seemed to have thought that the advantages accruing to the nation from its trade with Spain were so considerable, that they ought not, by insisting too peremptorily on that article, to endanger the conclusion of a general peace.

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In the month of November, his majesty returned from his German dominions, and on the seventeenth day of January,\* he opened the parliament with a speech, importing, that he had postponed their meeting so long that he might consult their private convenience, as far as was consistent with the necessities of the public: that, since the last session, his care had been constantly employed in improving the present tranquillity; and he had the satisfaction to acquaint them, that he had concluded a treaty with his good brother the king of Spain, by which such differences, as, from the nature of them, could not be settled in a general treaty, had been amicably adjusted without the intervention of any other party, and the commerce of this nation with that country re established upon the most advantageous and sure foundations: that, in the progress of this work, he had received such assurances of the good disposition of the Catholic king to cement and maintain a perfect union, as left no room to doubt of his sincerity; and that there was the greatest reason to hope, that the ancient freindship between the two nations, would, from mutual interest and inclination, be now effectually restored:

stated: that he had also, in conjunction with the empress queen and the States-General, concluded a treaty with the elector of Bavaria, and was taking such further measures, as might best tend to maintain and secure the tranquillity of the empire, support its system, and timely prevent such events, as had been found, by experience, to endanger the common cause, involve Europe in the calamities of war, and occasion the loss of much blood and treasure to these kingdoms: that both these treaties should be laid before them: that he had received from all the other contracting powers in the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the most full and clear declarations of their resolution to preserve the general tranquillity; and that he had taken care to strengthen and consolidate the ties of union between him and his allies, the better to secure their mutual interests, maintain the peace already subsisting, and prevent the occasion of any future rupture: that he hoped they would proceed with unanimity and dispatch in their deliberations, would convert their attention towards the improvement of trade and commerce, and would concert the proper measures for suppressing those outrages and violences, which were inconsistent with good order and government,

vernment, and endangered the lives and properties of his subjects.

Both houses having presented addressees of thanks, the commons proceeded to consider a case of a very delicate and interesting nature. Lord Trentham, eldest son to earl Gower, and one of the representatives for Westminster, having, in the course of the former session, accepted of the place of a lord of admiralty, his seat in parliament was thereby vacated; and having again declared himself a candidate, he met with a powerful opponent in the person of Sir George Vandeput, a private gentleman, who was powerfully supported by the friends of the prince of Wales, and by all those who assumed the name of independent electors.

His interest was still farther hurt by an incident of another kind. A set of French players having obtained leave to act on the little theatre in the Hay-market, had been pelted by the audience; and some young noblemen and gentlemen having been incautious enough to espouse their cause, and to draw their swords upon the audience, it was affirmed in print, and even certified by affidavit that lord Trentham was of the number.

Though the whole of this allegation was afterwards proved to be an infamous falsehood,

166 *The History of* ENGLAND.

hood, yet it tended greatly to his lordship's prejudice. Nevertheless it appeared, that he had a majority upon the poll; and the other candidate therefore demanded a scrutiny, which was readily granted by the high bailiff, the returning officer.

The affair was carried on with great zeal on both sides; and such was the implacable animosity of the two parties, that it was with the utmost difficulty the more moderate among them, could prevent the more furious and headstrong from, sometimes, coming to blows. Each was attended with council, managers, and agents: and all the arts of deceit and engines of violence were employed to establish and overturn the validity of votes. The party of Sir George was the most noisy and boisterous; and the high bailiff, during the whole election, appeared to be most in their interest; a circumstance, which gave him so much credit with the mob, that matters were conducted with tolerable order.

But the commons having received intelligence that he met with obstructions in the execution of his office, sent for him to the house; and a strict charge was given him, that if any one should presume to molest him in the exercise of his duty, he should inform against such daring offenders. Not-  
with-

withstanding this intimation, the high bailiff proceeded with great prudence and circumspection; but all his moderation could not appease the clamours of Sir George's friends, who employed a great many insolent expressions, of which the other party threatened to complain.

This matter, however, remained in suspense during the whole of that session; the conclusion of which was no sooner notified by the firing of the Tower guns, than Mr. Crowle, one of Vandeput's council, told his antagonist that all his threats were but now *bruta fulmina*, as the power of the house was totally expired.

The expectations of both parties were, by this time, raised to the highest degree; but great was the surprize of Vandeput's adherents, when they saw the high bailiff return his competitor. Two petitions were immediately presented to the house against this return; one from Sir George's friends, the other from himself; and both of them complaining of the high bailiff's injustice and partiality.

In opposition to these, lord Trentham, who had now taken his seat, produced letters from the heads of Vandeput's party, dated the very night before the making of the return, and directed to the high bailiff,  
whose

whose equal and disinterested conduct they greatly applauded. He likewise insisted, that, for his own vindication, the matter should be brought under the consideration of the house; and that both parties were appointed to meet on the sixth day of February.

In the mean time, a resolution was made and carried, that the speaker should be called to the bar of the house, in order to give an account of what he had done in consequence of the petition laid upon him by the house, in the course of last session, and whether and from whom he had received any obstruction in the execution of his office. The house accordingly made his appearance; and he named Mr. Crowle, the honourable Alexander Murray, brother to the lord Elibank, and one Gibson, an upholsterer, as the persons who had been most forward to obstruct him in the discharge of his duty. These three persons were therefore summoned to the bar; and Mr. Crowle received a reprimand from the speaker on his knees.

The house then proceeded to consider the case of Mr. Murray, and, after a short debate, they came to the following resolutions, that it appeared to the house, that the honourable Alexander Murray, esquire, on the

the fifteenth day of May last, being the day of returning a member to serve in parliament for the city of Westminster, attended by a mob, did, before the return was made, come to the house of Mr. Badwin, the deputy high-bailiff of the same city, and then and there declared, in a menacing and insulting manner, that he, and a thousand more, had sworn, that the high-bailiff should make his return in the middle of Covent-Garden, and not in the portico : that he was a fool he had not ordered the iron rails before the portico to be cut down the night before ; for that he had been told by council, that if he had done it, and had not taken the rails away, it would have been no more than a trespass ; and that, for a hundred, or a hundred and fifty pounds, they might have been made good again ; and that, had it not been for some faint-hearted fellows, it would have been done, or words to that effect : that the said Alexander Murray, immediately after the return was made, appeared in Covent-Garden church-yard, while the returning officer was in the vestry, near the place where the return was made, at the head of a mob, who seemed to be for Sir George Vandeput, and did then utter words exciting and inflaming the said multitude to insult and murder the

returning officer; and afterwards, as the returning officer was going away, the said Alexander Murray, persevering in his wicked purposes, did, at the head of the said mob, again excite them to acts of violence, saying, with imprecations, "will nobody knock the dog down! will nobody kill the dog!" or words to that effect.

It was at the same time resolved, that Mr. Murray should be committed close prisoner to Newgate; and that he should be brought to the bar of the house, to receive his sentence upon his knees. This last act of humiliation was imposed upon him by the influence of the young and more violent members, who heard he had declared, that he would not submit to such an indignity.

Their information seems to have been well founded: for when Mr. Murray was brought to the bar, he actually refused to kneel; a circumstance that greatly alarmed the moderate members, who, had they been apprized of his previous declaration, would never have agreed to the last resolution. Now, however, that the resolution was taken, they could not dispense with the prisoner's compliance, whose former crime was greatly aggravated by his present obstinacy,

nacy, and who had thus dared, in a manner, to set the commons at defiance.

Nevertheless, they were at a loss to determine what punishment they could inflict upon him more severe than imprisonment. Some of the more violent members, indeed, recommended more rigorous measures; but the committee, to whom the affair was referred, gave it as their opinion, that there was no precedent of the house having exercised a more extensive power.

They therefore resolved, that Mr. Murray having, in a most insolent and audacious manner, at the bar of the house, absolutely refused to be upon his knees in compliance with their former resolution, had been guilty of a high and most dangerous contempt of the authority and privilege of the house: that, for this offence, he should be committed close prisoner to Newgate: and that, while there, he should not be allowed the use of pen, ink, or paper, nor be indulged in the privilege of having any person admitted to him without the leave of the house. These resolutions were ordered to be put in execution; and accordingly that night, or rather morning (for it was one before the house rose) Mr. Murray was carried to Newgate.

Soon after his commitment, he was seized with a slight indisposition ; and the physicians reporting that his health was in danger, the house consented to his being removed from Newgate and taken into the custody of the sergeant at arms : but he had the resolution to reject this offer, and continue in prison till the end of the session ; by the conclusion of which, being delivered from his confinement, he made a kind of triumphant procession to his own house, accompanied by the sheriffs of London with a large train of coaches, and attended all the way by the acclamations of his party.

The commons next proceeded to consider the estimates for the ensuing year. They voted about two millions and a half towards discharging the national debt, two hundred and forty-five thousand five hundred and seventy-five pounds for making good deficiencies, one hundred and seven thousand two hundred and sixty-seven pounds for defraying extraordinary expences, and two millions sixty-one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight pounds for the current service of the year ; the whole supply amounting to little less than five millions sterling.

While the parliament was thus proceeding with the public business, the nation sustained a terrible blow in the death of the prince  
of

of Wales, who expired on the tenth day of March, about ten in the evening. He had caught cold about three weeks before in his gardens at Kew; and having neglected, through hurry of business, to have it removed, it was still farther encreased by his coming very warm from the house of peers with the windows of his chair open.

This threw him into a pleuresy, which his physicians, however, were far from apprehending to be mortal; and upon the application of proper remedies, he was even thought to be in a fair way of recovery, till the very hour before his death; when a large abscess upon his lungs, which had been long gathering, was supposed to burst, and to be the immediate cause of his death.

Of his character of this prince, in all the different relations of life, was not only irreproachable, but even worthy of the highest esteem and veneration. A dutiful son, an affectionate parent, a tender husband, an indulgent master, a warm friend, and a generous patron, he captivated, by an irresistible energy, the hearts of all who had the honour of his acquaintance. Possessed of a considerable share of learning himself, he took a pleasure in encouraging the learned and ingenious. When independent, he distinguished them by his

## 174 *The History of* ENGLAND.

friendship and countenance; when their circumstances required it, by his munificence and bounty. He had studied the spirit of the English constitution with much greater accuracy than, considering his numerous avocations could reasonably be expected; and had he lived to ascend the throne, the people could not have failed, but through their own fault, to be happy under his government.

Though he had for some time favoured, and, in a manner, headed the opposition, still it was in the most perfect consistency with his duty both as a son and a subject. He had lately discovered the selfish and interested motives of those who generally composed the minority: and it is thought that, had he lived much longer, he would have withdrawn his confidence from men; who, under the mask of public spirit, meant only to consult their own private advantage; and to whose wicked and pernicious councils he was inclined to ascribe that unhappy misunderstanding, which commonly prevailed between the eldest sons of his family and their fathers. That this last was really his sentiment, appeared from a variety of circumstances, and particularly from an expression, which he used to his eldest son a few days before his death, though without  
having

having the least apprehension of it; when embracing him with great tenderness he said, "come, George, let us be good friends while we are suffered to be so."

The death of the prince of Wales produced an entire revolution in the state of national parties. The tender affection expressed by the king towards the princess and her children, and the dutiful submission which they shewed to him, made such an impression on the minds of the people in general, that all party-distinctions seemed at once to be annihilated.

On the twenty-sixth day of April, his majesty sent a message to the parliament, importing, that having it greatly at heart, to secure the future welfare and happiness of his people, he had considered, that nothing could conduce so much, under the protection of the divine providence, to the preservation of the Protestant succession in the royal family, and the support of the religion, laws, and liberties of these kingdoms, which had always been most dear to him, as the making proper provisions for the care and tuition of the person of his successor, and for the regular administration of the government, in case his successor should be of tender years; by which means his safety and princely education might be secured,

176 *The History of ENGLAND.*

cured, the public peace and tranquillity maintained, and the strength and glory of the crown of Great Britain suffer no diminution : that, for these reasons, his majesty, out of his paternal affection and tenderness for his royal family, and for all his faithful subjects, earnestly recommended it to both houses of parliament, to take this weighty affair into their most serious deliberation ; and proposed to their consideration, that when the imperial crown of these realms should descend to any of the issue of his son, the late prince of Wales, being under the age of eighteen years, the princess dowager of Wales, their mother, should be guardian of the person of such successor, and regent of these kingdoms, until they should attain that age, with such power and limitation as should appear necessary and expedient for these purposes.

This message was answered by affectionate addresses, from both houses, who promised to comply with his majesty's request, and a bill was accordingly prepared by the lords for that very purpose. The princess of Wales was declared regent of the realm, in the event of the king's death, during the minority of her eldest son ; and she was to be assisted in the administration of the government by a council of regency.

This

This was composed of his royal highness the duke of Cumberland, who was then at the head of the army; the archbishop of Canterbury; the lord chancellor; the lord high treasurer of Great Britain, or first commissioner of the treasury; the president of the council; the lord privy seal; the lord high admiral of Great Britain, or first commissioner of the admiralty; the two secretaries of state; and the lord chief justice of the King's-bench: all of them for the time being, except his royal highness the duke.

The Scottish clergy, encouraged by the great credit which they had acquired at court, and the prodigious popularity which they had gained in the nation, by their zeal and loyalty during the late rebellion, resolved to avail themselves of these advantages, in procuring, if possible, a better provision than what they at present enjoyed. With this view they presented a petition to parliament, importing, that many of their stipends were so small, that they could not defray the expence of suing for the augmentations, to which they were by law entitled; and that those, who were obliged to do so, or even to sue for punctual payment, commonly forfeited the favour and affection of their parishioners: that the parishes, in some parts of Scotland, were by far too large, and in others,

cured, the public peace and tranquility maintained, and the strength and glory of the crown of Great Britain suffer no diminution : that, for these reasons, his majesty, out of his paternal affection and tenderness for his royal family, and for all his faithful subjects, earnestly recommended it to both houses of parliament, to take this weighty affair into their most serious deliberation ; and proposed to their consideration, that when the imperial crown of these realms should descend to any of the issue of his son, the late prince of Wales, being under the age of eighteen years, the princess dowager of Wales, their mother, should be guardian of the person of such successor, and regent of these kingdoms, until they should attain that age, with such power and limitation as should appear necessary and expedient for these purposes.

This message was answered by affectionate addresses, from both houses, who promised to comply with his majesty's request, and a bill was accordingly prepared by the lords for that very purpose. The princess of Wales was declared regent of the realm, in the event of the king's death, during the minority of her eldest son ; and she was to be assisted in the administration of the government by a council of regency.

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178 *The History of* ENGLAND.

others, very unequally divided: and that, with a little care and attention, they might be much better regulated, and put upon a more just and reasonable footing. They therefore prayed, that the parliament would take the affair into their serious consideration; and would be pleased to grant them such relief, as to them, in their great wisdom, should seem meet.

This petition was no sooner presented, than it was immediately answered by a counter-petition, signed by the earls of Moreton, Lauderdale, Hopeton, Charles Hope Wier, Robert Dundas, Archibald Murray, and many other noblemen and gentlemen, freeholders and heritors in Scotland. This petition treated that of the clergy with some roughness and severity. It represented that though this application to parliament had been voted by a majority of the general assembly, the petitioners had good grounds to believe, that the scheme had been originally concerted contrary to the sentiments and advice of many of the wisest and most prudent of the clergy themselves, who plainly foresaw the pernicious consequences with which it must be attended: that the noblemen and gentlemen of most of the counties of Scotland, considering this attempt of the clergy as an  
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open attack and invasion of their properties, had come to a resolution to oppose such a project, and had entrusted the conduct of such opposition to the present petitioners : that, by the laws of Scotland, a very sufficient and ample provision was made for the maintenance of ministers, and the augmentation of such of their stipends as had not been legally modified and settled ; and also for the due payment of stipends, and the uniting or dividing of parishes : and that, therefore, the petitioners were convinced, that the making any innovations or alterations in the laws relating to any of these particulars, was absolutely unnecessary, and would greatly alarm the minds and disturb the peace of the inhabitants of that part of the united kingdom.

Notwithstanding this strenuous opposition of the laity, the Scottish clergy found such encouragement at court, that their petition was referred to the consideration of a committee, whose report was ordered to be printed. Many arguments were urged in behalf of their application. It was particularly said, that their stipends, having been settled above a century ago, had, by the great increase in the price of all the necessities and conveniencies of life, become so very in considerable, that they could not afford

ford to support themselves and their families with any tolerable decency ; but this argument was overturned by the laity, who proved, that the Scottish clergy in general were more liberally provided for than the English, considering the very different price of provisions in the two kingdoms.

The ministry, apprehensive, that the prosecution of the scheme might be attended with some dangerous consequences, endeavoured to persuade the clergy to withdraw their petition till a more convenient opportunity ; but these continuing to persist in their application, the farther consideration of the affair was put off for two months, by which means it was dropt for the present.

On the twenty-fifth day of June his majesty repaired to the house of peers, where, after having thanked the parliament for the prudence and dispatch, with which they had conducted the public business, he ordered them to be prorogued to the thirteenth day of August.\* In April prince George, eldest son to the prince of Wales, was invested with

\* Among the laws passed in this session, was an act imposing a duty of twenty shillings on all the retailers of spirituous liquors ; and another, by which the method of computing the year was altered, by abolishing the old and adopting the new stile.

with the dignity of that title as well as that of earl of Chester; and was soon after chosen governour of the Free British fishery, an honour, which he received with the greatest affability and complaisance.

Never were the common people of England known to be more profligate and dissolute than at this period; nor were ever the better sort observed to be more charitable and beneficent. Numbers of persons were executed for the most shocking and atrocious crimes;\* and many new hospitals were erected and liberally endowed.

VOL. XXXIX.

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Besides

\* In the course of this year one miss Blandy was executed for poisoning her father, an eminent attorney at Henley upon Thames. One Jeffries, a young woman, with Swan, her lover, were executed for murdering her uncle, a wealthy tradesman, who had retired from business, and with whom she had lived for a considerable time. A large mob assembled at Tring in Hertfordshire, and seizing an old woman and her husband, under the notion of their having commerce with the devil, treated them with such inhumanity, by ducking and beating them, that the woman died on the spot, and the man with difficulty escaped with his life. For this murder one Colley was hanged. Two fellows, Welsh and Jones, were discovered to be the authors of a rape and a murder, for which one Coleman, a brewer's clerk, had unjustly suffered. Those wretches were present at Coleman's execution, heard the declaration of his innocence, and drew the cart from under him. Both of them were hanged, confessing the crime.

Besides the prince of Wales, this year proved fatal to two others of the royal family; the prince of Orange, who died on the eleventh day of October, in the forty-first year of his age; and Louisa, queen of Denmark, youngest daughter to his Britannic majesty, who expired on the nineteenth of December, in the twenty-seventh year of her age. By the constitution of the United Provinces, the princess dowager of Orange was invested with the government as gouvernante, till her son should arrive at the years of majority; and all the powers, which her husband had enjoyed, devolved upon her, during the interval.

The queen of Denmark's death was owing to a rupture she had contracted by stooping too hastily, while far advanced in her pregnancy. She was a princess of exemplary piety and virtue, and bore her fate with becoming resignation; having taken a tender and affectionate leave of her husband and children of whom she left behind one son and three daughters.

Affairs on the continent continued much in their former situation. The king of Prussia was wholly employed in supporting his new Embden company, and in reforming the laws of his dominions, by reducing the administration of justice to plain and  
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Simple principles, and an expeditious practice; a scheme, in which he was so very successful, that his chancellor, Cocceji, decided, in one year, in the city of Berlin, no less than five hundred and sixty law suits, without delay or expence to the clients. A strong jealousy, however, still prevailed between him and the Czarina, who ordered her minister, at the court of Berlin, to make an abrupt departure; and his example was immediately followed by the Prussian ambassador at Petersburg.

The French king was eagerly bent upon the prosecution of the schemes, which he had formed in America; and for the execution of which, a heavy contribution was exacted from the clergy.

Thus supplied, his ministry began to make the necessary preparations. Several regiments of their best troops, with a sufficient store of arms, ammunition, and provisions were transported into that part of the world. Their garrisons were reinforced: their fortifications completed. Great sums of money and large quantities of spirituous liquors were sent to debauch the Indians from their friendship with the English; and, in the mean time, the better to conceal the whole

184 *The History of ENGLAND.*

design, the British ambassador at Paris was loaded with more than ordinary careſſes.

The great object of the queen of Hungary's ambition was, to ſee her eldeſt ſon, the archduke Joſeph, advanced to the dignity of king of the Romans. This too was a meaſure to which his Britanniſh majeſty was extremely well inclined, and about which he had lately made ſome propoſals.

In the beginning of the year, the empreſs queen addreſſed two declarations to the diet of the empire, informing them, that they had lent an ear to his Britanniſh majeſty's overture for the election of their ſon; a favour, for which they expreſſed their moſt grateful acknowledgements: but that they were determined to proceed in it, no other way, than was agreeable to the golden bull, and to the fundamental laws of the empire. Theſe declarations met with but a very cold reception from the members of the diet, particularly the king of Pruſſia; who, from ſhewing a backwardneſs, came, at laſt, to entertain an unconquerable averſion to the propoſal.

He alledged, that the golden bull, without making any proviſions for electing a king of the Romans, or the manner of ſuch election, eſtabliſhed only perpetual vicars for governing the empire, upon the demife  
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of one emperor, till another emperor should be elected : that the treaty of Westphalia implied, that all the estates of the empire had a right to concur in the decision of the preliminary question, " Whether it was proper to proceed to the election of a king of the Romans ?" and to judge of the case of necessity : that the Imperial capitulation on that head laid down no case of necessity, which existed at that time : and that the chusing a minor under a guardianship, would deprive the vicars, in the event of the emperor's demise during the minor's nonage, of their right of government. These reasons, which his Prussian majesty addressed to the elector of Mentz, seem to have had great weight with the other princes of the empire ; for the affair at present was intirely laid aside.

The court of Spain was no less intent, than that of France, upon improving their marine and their commerce. By the help of some English artificers, who, after the conclusion of the peace, had gone over to Spain, they built several large men of war upon the British model ; and their woollen and other manufactures were, by the skill and industry of some English subjects, who had settled in Spain, carried to such a degree of perfection, that the exportation of

186 *The History of ENGLAND.*

those commodities from Britain was considerably diminished.

The British ministry were no sooner informed of these circumstances, than they ordered Mr. Keene, the English ambassador at Madrid, to make a representation to that court, requiring, that no more Englishmen should be allowed to settle in Spain ; and that even those, who had already settled, should be obliged to return to their own country. The ambassador accordingly presented a remonstrance ; but little regard was paid to his application.

The parliament meeting on the fourteenth day of November, the king, in his speech to both houses, said, that he could not help congratulating them once more on the general tranquillity, which prevailed in Europe, and from which his good subjects had reaped the most solid advantages in their trade and manufactures : that as he had, in the course of the last year, entered into a treaty with the elector of Bavaria, the better to secure the peace of the empire, so had he, in the present, and for the same purposes, in conjunction with the States-general, concluded a treaty with the king of Poland, elector of Saxony : that the unfortunate death of the prince

prince of Orange had made no alteration in the state of affairs in Holland; and that he had received the strongest assurances from the States-general of their firm resolution to maintain that strict union and friendship, which so happily subsisted between his majesty and those ancient and natural allies of his crown: that he had no other supplies to ask of his parliament, than such as were necessary for the services of the ensuing year, and making good the engagements of which he had now informed them: that he was confident their success in reducing the national debt would give the greatest satisfaction to the public: that he hoped they would consider seriously of some effectual method to suppress those audacious crimes of robbery and violence, which were now become so frequent, especially about the metropolis, and which proceeded; in a great measure, from that profligate spirit of irreligion, idleness, gaming, and extravagancy, which had of late extended itself in an uncommon degree, to the dishonour of the nation, and to the great offence and prejudice of the sober and industrious part of the people.

Addresses of thanks having been presented by both houses, the commons took into consideration the case of Mr. Murray,

## 188 *The History of* ENGLAND.

ray, who had been freed from confinement at the conclusion of the last session. The behaviour of the sheriffs of London, in attending him from Newgate to his house, was highly resented; and some talked of summoning them to the bar of the house, and reprimanding them for their indecent conduct. No formal motion, indeed, was made for that purpose; but, had it not been for the prudence and moderation of Mr. Pelham, it would have been both made and carried.

Nothing, however, could prevent the house from again ordering Mr. Murray into custody: but that gentleman had wisely provided against the impending storm, by retiring out of the kingdom; and the serjeant at arms reporting that he could not be found, they resolved to address his majesty, desiring that he would be graciously pleased to issue his royal proclamation for apprehending Mr. Murray, and offering a reward to any one who should perform that service.

At the same time they voted, that a pamphlet, which Mr. Murray had published, and in which he had given an account of his case, was an infamous libel; and they requested his majesty to order his attorney-general to prosecute the authors, printers, and publishers of that performance. A  
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prosecution accordingly was immediately commenced; and the same person happening to be both printer and publisher, he was brought to his trial; but, after a long hearing, was acquitted by the jury.

The commons then proceeded to settle the supply. They granted two millions, ninety thousand three hundred and nine pounds for the service of the current year\*; one million, three hundred thousand pounds towards discharging the national debt; three hundred one thousand and twelve pounds for supplying the deficiencies of old funds; fifty-four thousand, seven hundred and fifty-one pounds for making good the deficiencies of last year's grants; forty-nine thousand, two hundred and nineteen pounds for defraying extraordinary expences; and one hundred and twelve thousand, one hundred and forty-two pounds for purchasing the charter of the African company; the whole amounting nearly to four millions sterling.

Of this sum three thousand pounds were allotted for making and keeping in repair a road leading from Carlisle to Newcastle. It is is observable, that when the labourers began to work, they found they had little else

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190 *The History of ENGLAND.*

to do than to remove the rubbish and fill up some holes; this being the very road, which the Romans, during their residence in Britain, had formed and fortified with a strong wall.

To such a high pitch, at this time, had the profligancy of the common people arrived, that it called aloud for some legal restraint and correction. Robberies were now become so frequent, that the atrociousness of the crime was, in a great measure, forgot; nor was any thing more common, than to see an advertisement in the newspapers, promising impunity; and even offering a reward, to any one, that would return the stolen goods to the owner.

These enormities were generally ascribed to the extravagance of the populace, who appeared to neglect all serious employment, and to spend their whole time and substance in pleasure and diversion. Every city, every town, nay almost every village, was furnished with assemblies of music, dancing, and gaming; and the whole nation seemed to keep one perpetual holiday.

In order to put a stop to this growing evil, a bill was prepared and passed by the commons, for the better preventing of thefts and robberies, for regulating places of public entertainment, and for punishing such  
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as kept disorderly houses. The operation of this bill extended to London and twenty miles round it; and all persons living within that circuit, were required to take out licences from the justices of the peace, before they should presume to open any room or place for public dancing, music, or such other entertainment. It cannot be supposed, that a bill of such a beneficial tendency should meet with any obstruction in the upper house, where it was immediately passed, and soon after received the royal assent.

The estates, which had been forfeited in Scotland by the rebellion of 1715, had been exposed to public sale, and generally purchased for the former owners; by which means the spirit of disaffection continued to prevail in its full vigour. To prevent a return of the like danger, a resolution was now taken to vest in the crown the estates, which had been forfeited by the late rebellion, and to apply the profits of them to purposes of national utility.

A bill accordingly was brought into the lower house for annexing these estates to the crown unalienably, for making satisfaction to the lawful creditors, for establishing a method of letting leases of the lands, and for applying the rents of them towards civilizing and improving the Highlands of Scotland.

land. By this bill his majesty was empowered to commit the management of these estates to the care of commissioners, who were to have no salaries, but were to appoint stewards under them, with an allowance not exceeding five per cent. of the rental; and to grant leases for any term, not exceeding twenty-one years, upon a reserved rent of not less than three fourths of the neat annual value, and not to the amount of above twenty pounds a year to any one person. All the lessees were to take the oaths to the government; to reside upon and cultivate the lands; and not to resign or let them to any other person, nor to pay any gratuity whatsoever to any other person for holding them.

Notwithstanding the apparent utility of this bill, it was vigorously opposed, though only indeed by a few members; for it was carried in the lower house by a majority of one hundred and thirty-five against twenty-nine voices, and, in the upper, by a majority of eighty against twelve.

The multiplicity of funds had long been considered as a national grievance. The different stocks of annuities at three per cent. were no fewer than eight, amounting in the whole to nine millions one hundred and thirty-seven thousand eight hundred and twenty-

twenty-one pounds five shillings and one penny farthing principal: those at three and a half per cent. were six, composing a sum of seventeen millions seven hundred and one thousand three hundred and twenty three pounds eighteen shillings and nine pence.

In order to remove the perplexity and confusion, which must necessarily attend such a number of funds, Mr. Pelham projected a bill, which was easily carried through both houses, for converting the several annuities into so many joint stocks, transferable at the bank of England, and to be charged on the sinking fund.

The knowledge of parliamentary transactions is so necessary to every member of either house, that most of them were desirous of having copies of the journals; but few of them were able defray the expence of transcribing a collection so large and voluminous. To remove therefore this public inconvenience, and to enable all the members to get copies of the journals at an easy rate, the commons ordered their journals to be printed.

The care of the publication was committed to Mr. Hardinge, late clerk of the house; and five thousand pounds were, at different times, allotted him for the execu-

tion of the work. He was a man of some knowledge and great industry ; and, little being necessary but accuracy and correctness, he discharged his trust with tolerable success.

On the twentieth day of March a petition was presented to the commons by the merchants of London, who alledged, that several foreigners had, of late years, been induced to come over to England, in order to obtain private acts of parliament for their naturalization, with a view to gain some advantages to themselves in point of trade, particularly to avoid the payment of the duties of aliens on the goods and merchandizes, which they imported from foreign parts into this kingdom ; and that having obtained such acts, they returned back to their own country, where they constantly resided, and consequently bore no part of the public taxes, nor, in any manner, contributed towards the support of the state, or at all answered the intention of the legislature. They therefore prayed, that this abuse of the favour of parliament might be prevented, by restraining, for the future, the benefit of naturalization to the time, during which foreigners should reside within this realm, in such manner and under

der such limitations as to the house should appear fit.

The desire of the petitioners appeared so reasonable, that the house thought proper immediately to grant it; and a clause accordingly to that purpose was inserted in a naturalization bill, which was then depending, and has continued ever since to be added to every bill of that nature. Nothing of importance passed in the upper house during this session, which, on the twenty-sixth day of March, was closed by a speech from his majesty, who presently set out for his German dominions, after having appointed a regency to govern the kingdom in his absence.\*

The attention of the public was at this time engaged by an affair of a very singular nature. Sir Peter Warren, who was extremely popular in the nation, having happened to drop a hint, that he should not be displeased if he was chosen an alderman of London, the inhabitants of Billingsgate ward, which happened to be vacant, immediately elected him.

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\* Among the laws passed in this session was an act by which all criminals, convicted of murder, were to be executed the day succeeding their condemnation, and their bodies to be delivered to the surgeons to be anatomised.

The lords justices were no sooner informed of this incident, than they gave it as their opinion, that his accepting the office of alderman must be considered as inconsistent with his duty as an admiral, and that there was no precedent of a knight of the bath having served in that station. Sir Peter therefore declined the intended honour; paid his fine of five hundred pounds to be excused from serving; and presented the inhabitants of the ward with two hundred guineas for the benefit of their poor.

The inhabitants, however, alike regardless of the opinion of the lords justices and of Sir Peter's refusal, still insisted on his serving; and it is hard to say, how far they might have carried their obstinacy, had not Mr. Beckford, one of the richest merchants in London, declared himself a candidate and been elected alderman.

The foreign transactions of this year were neither numerous nor interesting. A violent dispute had lately arisen between the court of Vienna and the elector Palatine, who laid claim to a large sum of money, as the arrears of his troops during the late war; but as that prince's vote was of great consequence in the election of a king of the Romans, the difference was happily compromised by the intervention of his Britannic  
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majesty, and a treaty concluded between the contending parties, importing, that the indemnification of the demands of his electoral highness should be fixed at one million two hundred thousand florins, according to the Dutch standard; of which the empress queen should pay five hundred thousand florins, and the king of England and the States-General, the remaining seven hundred thousand, following the proportion observed in former treaties: that the privilege of non-appellando for the dutchy of Deux-Ponts should be granted to his electoral highness, as well as the expectation of succeeding to the fief of Oßonan, after the extinction of the male branch of the house of Bade-Bade: that his electoral highness should concur with the other electors in the affair of the election of king of the Romans, observing still the customs prescribed by the laws and constitutions of the empire: and that he should also join with them in settling the articles of capitulation of the king of the Romans, the future emperor.

A misunderstanding had likewise happened between his Britannic majesty and the king of Prussia, concerning their respective pretensions to the province of East-Friesland, which was at present possessed by the latter

## 198 *The History of ENGLAND.*

of these monarchs. The Hanoverian minister at the diet of Ratisban, delivered a memorial to that assembly, proposing to refer the controversy to the decision of the emperor and the Aulic council: but this expedient was flatly rejected by his Prussian majesty.

Another cause contributed to widen the breach. In the year 1735, the emperor, Charles the sixth, straightened for money, had, by the permission of the king of England, with whom he was then upon very good terms, borrowed from the subjects of Great-Britain two hundred and fifty thousand pounds at six per cent, for which he mortgaged the silver mines in Silesia. By the seventh article of the treaty of Breslau, which ceded Silesia to the king of Prussia, that prince charged himself wholly with the repayment of what had been lent by the English merchants on the security of the revenues of Silesia.

He accordingly continued to pay the loan with great punctuality till Michaelmas 1752, when all of a sudden he stopt payment, and caused a paper to be published in justification of his conduct. In this paper, which was termed an exposition of the motives of his stopping payment, he alledged, that eighteen Prussian ships,  
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and thirty-three neutral vessels, in which the Prussians were concerned, had been unjustly stoppt and seized by the English.

At the same time he ordered Michel, his minister at London, to present a memorial to the duke of Newcastle, one of the principal secretaries of state, inforcing his demands in a very peremptory manner. The duke laid both the exposition and memorial before the king, who referred them to the consideration of his advocate, attorney, and solicitor-general. These gentlemen accordingly made a very strict enquiry into the matter; and having finished their report they delivered it to his majesty.

This report, which, together with a letter from the duke of Newcastle, was transmitted to the court of Berlin, represented, that not only the facts, but even the principles, upon which his Prussian majesty had proceeded, were false and groundless: that the cognizance of captures by sea could only belong to the courts of that power, where the seizure was made; and that his Prussian majesty, therefore, could, with no shew of reason, and with no conformity to the law of nations, arrogate them to the decision of his own courts. That, of the eighteen ships in the first Prussian list, four, if  
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ever taken, had been restored by the captors themselves, to the satisfaction of the Prussians, who had never complained in any British court of justice: one had been restored with full costs and damages: three had been restored by sentence, with freight for such goods belonging to the company, as were condemned; four had been restored by sentence; but the cargoes, or part of them, had been condemned as contraband, and were not alledged to be Prussian property: five and their cargoes had been restored by sentence; but the claimant subjected to pay costs, because, from the ship-papers, there was ground to have condemned them, and the restitution was made merely on the faith of evidences afterwards adduced; one ship, the last of the eighteen, had been restored upon an appeal; but, from the circumstances of the capture, without costs on either side. That with regard to the list of thirty-three neutral ships, in whose cargoes the subjects of Prussia claimed to have interest, two of them had never come before a court of justice in England; but, if taken, had been restored by the captors themselves, to the entire satisfaction of the owners: that in sixteen of them, the goods, claimed by the Prussian subjects, appeared to have been actually restored by sentence to the masters of

of the ships, in which they were embarked ; and, by the customs of the sea, the master is in place of the proprietor : that in fourteen of the cases, the Prussian property had not been verified by the ship's papers, or preparatory examinations, or the claimants own oath, which he was allowed to make : and that the remaining cause, with respect to the goods, was depending, when the memorial and list were delivered to the British secretary of state, and the goods had since been restored by sentence. That, after all, there was not even the most distant connection between the capture of those ships, and the affair of the Silesia loan, which was altogether a private transaction between the emperor and the creditors : that, had a war broke out between the emperor and Great Britain, he could not have made reprisals upon that loan ; and that the king of Prussia, having, upon his acquisition of Silesia from the empress, substituted himself in the emperor's stead, could not, with justice, make reprisals upon that which was a private debt, and which, being transferable, was become the property of many other subjects besides those of Great Britain : and finally, that by the contract with the late emperor, the whole of the loan ought to have been repaid in the year 1745 ; but that

that all the complaints, brought by the Prussians, were founded upon facts, that did not happen till 1746. The king of Prussia having perused this report, was so sensibly struck by the force of the arguments, that he gave up the point with great candour and ingenuity.

The British parliament meeting on the eleventh day of January \*, his majesty, in his speech to both houses, told them, that he had found in all his allies the best disposition to continue the present tranquillity of Europe : that he had no supplies to ask, but what should be necessary for the ordinary services : that he hoped they would apply their most serious attention to the improvement of commerce and the revenue : and that, for his own part, he should always be ready to pass any law that should be judged requisite for the reformation of the morals, or the preservation of the quiet of his people. Addresses of thanks, being presented by both houses, the commons proceeded to settle the supply, which, such was the œconomy of the ministry, amounted this year to no more than two millions, one hundred thirty-two thousand, seven hundred and seven

ven pounds, seventeen shillings and two pence half penny.

The next affair that came before the commons was of a very interesting and important nature, and greatly excited the attention of the public. This was a bill to permit persons professing the Jewish religion to be naturalized by parliament. Against this bill a petition was presented by the lord-mayor, aldermen, and common-council of London, who alledged, that should the bill pass into a law, it would tend greatly to the dishonour of religion, endanger our excellent constitution, and prove highly prejudicial to the interest and trade of this kingdom in general, and the city of London in particular: they therefore prayed that the scheme might be laid aside.

This petition was followed by another, of a very different nature, from some woollen-manufactures and others, concerned in shipping, who affirmed, that the bill, if passed into a law, might encourage many persons of wealth and substance to remove with their effects from foreign parts into this kingdom, the greatest part of which, agreeable to the experience of former times, would be employed by them in foreign trade and commerce, and increasing the shipping, and encouraging the exportation of the woollen and other manufactures of England;

- land ; of which the persons, who professed the Jewish religion, had, for many years last past, exported great quantities.

It was affirmed by the court party, who were in general friends to the bill, that it was not a scheme for naturalizing the Jewish nation : but it was answered, that a permission for them to be naturalized by parliament, amounted, in fact, to the same thing ; because it was not to be supposed, but that great numbers of them would readily embrace so tempting an offer. It was further said, that the Jews by being naturalized, would acquire a right to purchase land estates, and, of consequence, to have advowsons and presentations to livings in their possession ; a circumstance, that might be attended with the worst of consequences to the established church : that their manner of living was destructive to all hospitality and good neighbourhood amongst Christians : that their hatred to our religion might induce them to form combinations, which might, in the end, subvert its foundations : and that, with regard to manufactures, none of the Jews were concerned in that branch of business ; but all of them subsisted intirely upon their brokerage. Notwithstanding these, and many other objections, the bill was passed by a considerable

rable majority in both houses, and, at last, received the royal assent.

The fatal effects of clandestine marriages had long been a subject of complaint in England. Every day produced hearings in the court of chancery, and appeals to the house of peers, concerning the validity of those marriages; on account of the irregularity of which the innocent offspring were, sometimes, cut off from succession to estates, though their parents had been married by mutual consent.

Men, too, and women of the most infamous characters had it in their power to ruin the sons and daughters of the greatest families in England, by the frequent opportunities of marrying in the Fleet and other unlicensed places; which were so numerous, that marrying was become as much a trade as any mechanical profession. Some shocking instances of this kind having lately been discovered gave occasion to a bill, which was introduced into the upper house, for preventing the practice of clandestine marriages; and which, after undergoing some slight alterations, was sent down to the commons.

There it met with a most furious and violent opposition, as well from the ministerial as antiministerial party: and the con-

## 206 *The History of ENGLAND:*

test, it must be owned, on this occasion, was more fair and equal than ever it had been at any former period; as the members were no longer actuated by political motives, but merely by their own private sentiments.

The chief objection urged against it, was, that it was manifestly calculated for engrossing all the wealth of the kingdom among the great and rich families; but this objection, however well founded, was thought to be counter-balanced by the many evils that every day flowed from the contrary practice. The bill was strenuously supported by Mr. Pelham, lord Barrington, the attorney and solicitor-general, and many other gentlemen of great abilities: it was as vigorously opposed by Mr. Fox, Mr. Nugent, Mr. Townsend, and several other members.

In point of eloquence and argument the two parties were pretty equally matched: but the enemies of the bill were so successful in their attempts, that, during its progress through the house, few of its clauses remained unaltered; and Mr. Fox, holding it up in his hand, as Anthony exposed the murdered body of Cæsar, made a kind of parody of Shakespear's speech upon that occasion. Its friends, however, insisted, that its principles were still the same; and at length,  
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after a long and obstinate contest, it was passed by a great majority, and in the end confirmed by the royal sanction.\*

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\* As this bill is still in force; has been the subject of much popular clamour; and may be of use, especially to our young readers, we have thought proper to give it at length.

It ordains, that the banns shall be published in the church or chapel where the parties dwell, three Sundays, in the morning, except where morning service is not performed, immediately after the second lesson. If the parties live in different places, the banns must be published in each; and if in an extraparochial place, or where no divine service is usually celebrated, then in the parish church or chapel adjoining; and the marriage must be solemnized where the banns were published.

The minister is not obliged to publish the banns, unless the parties give in their christian and sur-name, the places of their abode, and the time they have dwelt in them, a week before the first publication. And when the banns have been thus published, the minister shall not incur ecclesiastical censure for solemnizing the marriage, although the parties shall appear to have been under age, and not to have obtained the consent of their parents or guardians, unless he had previous notice of such dissent, and then he is to declare the banns void. No license shall be granted, where one of the parties have not dwelt at least a month, a special license by the archbishop excepted. If marriage shall be solemnized in any other place than a church or a chapel without a special license, or in a public chapel without having first published the banns,

## 208 *The History of ENGLAND.*

In the course of this session a bill was projected by Mr. Potter, son to the late arch-

banns, or a license obtained of some persons properly authorized, the marriage shall be void, and the person, who solemnized it, transported for seven years, if prosecuted within three.

Marriage by license, when either of the said parties are under age, and consent of parent or guardian has not been obtained, shall be void ; provided the party under age be not a widow, and the parent refusing consent be not a widow, married again. When the consent of a mother or guardian shall be capriciously refused or the party *non compos mentis*, or beyond the sea, the court of chancery may relieve in a summary way. No suit shall be had to compel a celebration of marriage upon pretence of any contract, whether the wards of such contract were in the present or future tense.

All marriages to be before two witnesses, besides the minister, and an entry shall be made in a book kept for that purpose, expressing whether it was by banns or licence, and either of the parties under age : the consent of parent or guardian shall also be entered, to be signed by the minister, the parties, and the witnesses. False entry, licence, or certificates, or destroying register books, are felony, in principal or accessory, and to be punished with death. This act is not to extend to the royal family, Quakers, or Jews, or to affect any marriage in Scotland, or beyond sea. Nor is it necessary, in order to support a marriage by banns, to prove the residence of the parties, and the place where they were published ; nor, when by licence

archbishop of Capterbury, for taking and registering an annual account of the total number of people, marriages, births, deaths, and of poor receiving alms in every parish and extra-parochial place in Great-Britain.

In favour of this bill it was urged, that it would produce many advantages of great importance, which could no otherwise be obtained : that it would ascertain the collective strength of the nation, and shew where the inhabitants were too numerous, and where too few : that when the exact number of the people should be known, and not before, it might certainly be determined, whether a general naturalization would be advantageous or disadvantageous to the nation : that, by this means, it would appear, what number of men might, upon a sudden emergency, be levied for the army ; and whether we gain or lose by sending our natives to settle colonies and plantations abroad, and furnishing them with troops and artificers for their accommodation and defence : that, by pursuing this measure, we should gain a police, or a local administration of civil government, upon certain

cence, to prove that they had resided where the marriage was celebrated on oath ; nor shall any evidence be received to prove the contrary.

certain and known principles ; the want of which had been long a reproach to this nation, the discouragement of industry, and the support of idleness : that the parish registers, as they were now kept, were very defective ; and were so far from answering the purposes of the intended bill, that they did not, in many instances, enable the suitors in the courts of justice to recover their right, when no other evidence was wanting : and that the poor, notwithstanding innumerable regulations, were very expensive and burthensome ; although they were still frequently suffered to perish of diseases and nastiness, of cold and hunger, and were often treated with severity and rigour.

In opposition to the bill it was alledged, that it could not be passed into a law without exciting a spirit of jealousy and discontent among the people, who had a natural aversion to every thing, that looked like an imitation of French policy : that the method, in which the register was proposed to be kept, would give the enemies of the nation an opportunity of knowing both the strength and the weakness of the public : that it would put it in the power of any future wicked minister to accomplish with ease any scheme he thought proper for destroying the laws and liberties of his country : that it would invest the  
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parish and petty officers of the peace with powers too extensive for persons of their character : and that, finally, its execution would expose the nation annually to the enormous expence of fifty thousand pounds. The bill, however, passed in the lower house, but was rejected in the upper by a considerable majority.

About this time Sir Hans Sloan, the famous physician and naturalist, dying, his collection of curiosities was offered to the public for twenty thousand pounds ; a proposal which was readily accepted. The library of the late earl of Oxford was purchased for half that sum ; and these two being joined to the Cottonian and Royal libraries, were converted into the Musæum, which is now to be seen at Montague-house, under the direction of its trustees and governours.\*

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\* The trustees are, the archbishop of Canterbury ; the lord high chancellor, or lord keeper ; the lord high treasurer, or first lord commissioner of the treasury ; the lord president of the council ; the lord privy seal ; the lord high admiral, or first lord commissioner of the admiralty ; the lord steward of his majesty's household ; the lord chamberlain ; the bishop of London ; the two secretaries of state ; the speaker of the house

On the seventeenth day of June his majesty put an end to the session with a speech, in which he observed, that the state of foreign affairs had received no material alteration since their meeting; and that they might depend upon his pursuing the same principles and ends, which he had then declared to them: that to preserve the peace, and consult the real prosperity of his people, and, at the same time, to assert and maintain the honour and just rights of his crown  
and

house of commons; the chancellor of the exchequer; the lord chief justice of the King's Bench; the master of the rolls; the lord chief justice of the Common-pleas; the attorney-general; the solicitor-general; the president of the royal society; and the president of the college of physicians: all of them for the time being. To these were added, Charles lord Cardigan, Hans Stanley, Esq; Samuel Burrows, Esq; Thomas Hart, Esq; William duke of Portland; and Edward earl of Oxford and Mortimer.

The archbishop of Canterbury, the lord chancellor, and the speaker of the house of commons, have the nomination of all the officers, assistants, and servants. The trustees, soon after, admitted into their number Archibald duke of Argyle, Hugh earl of Northumberland, lord Charles Cavendish, Hugh lord Willoughby of Parham, the honourable Philip York, Esq; Sir George Littleton, bart. William Sloan, Esq; James West, Esq; Nicholas Harding, Esq; Sir John Evelin, bart. Charles Grey, Esq; William Sotheby, Esq; Thomas Birch, John Ward, and William Watson,

and kingdoms, were the objects of all his measures : that he had nothing to desire of them, but what, he was perswaded, they wished for themselves : that he hoped they would exert their utmost endeavours, in their several counties, to promote the true interest and happiness of his people, to encourage industry, to preserve good order and regularity in the state, and to make his subjects sensible of the blessings they enjoyed ; by which means the quiet and security of his government would be most effectually established.

*End of the* THIRTY-NINTH VOLUME.

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100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098

1943-1944

1981-1982

1944

1941

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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1940-1941

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RECEIVED - DEPT. OF THE ARMY

1911

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